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Elections 'more or less on schedule'

Rajiv sees world role

NEW DELHI, Aug 19, (AP): Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said today that India must play a bigger role in world affairs as the superpowers shift from old polarisations to greater dialogue.

In an interview with the Associated Press and United News of India, Rajiv also said he feared a hasty withdrawal of Indian peacekeeping troops from Sri Lanka could lead to partition of the island between the Sinhalese majority and Tamil minority. He said he expected his own national elections, due no later than January 4, 1990, to be held "more or less on schedule." While he declined to be more specific, he appeared to indicate early elections were unlikely.

"I feel India must play a bigger role and will play a bigger role and the global equations are changing. People are coming out of their old mind sets," the Indian leader said. "That's where countries like India can play a much bigger role, like we have done in the Non-Aligned (Movement), like we have done in disarmament — really bringing the opposition poles together, getting nations to think more in terms of one world, not our bloc and their bloc."

Rajiv has maintained his country's warm ties with Soviet Union that date to the days of his grandfather

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 4)

Druze arm; Paris flexes

Hezbollah threatens

BEIRUT, Aug 19, (Agencies): The French aircraft carrier Foch, a frigate and a transport ship with 220 men, helicopters and hospital facilities sailed for the Mediterranean today, apparently to join French forces waiting off Lebanon to aid French nationals and Lebanese civilians if fighting worsens in Beirut.

Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, Syria's main Lebanese ally, ordered a general mobilisation among his 200,000-strong community in preparation for a major battle against the beleaguered Christian, Muslim forces said.

Jumblatt warned that French military intervention on behalf of Christian strongman Gen. Michel Aoun would endanger Christians in Syrian-controlled areas and pave the way for the partitioning of the war-torn country.



Jumblatt said the Muslim officials were told by a French envoy that the warships were on a humanitarian mission, "but if it is aid, why are they bringing in warships not ordinary vessels?"

"We assured them (the French) that if they intervene, they will cause the partitioning of Lebanon," Jumblatt said in remarks broadcast on the Druze radio station, "Voice of the Mountain."

Aoun was quoted today as saying he would like to see French military intervention in his country.

Aoun was quoted in an interview in the Paris weekly Journal du Dimanche, which made a text available to news agencies a day before publication.

"I would like a French military intervention, but I don't want to compromise France with a Lebanese request," he was quoted as saying. "Up until now, we have exhausted much of our human and material resources and we need help to continue the resistance."

There was no elaboration on what kind of military action Aoun might favour.

Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal made a quick trip to Kuwait today amid reports that an Arab peace committee might revive its efforts to end the bloodshed in Lebanon.

Official statements in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait said the Saudi Prince delivered a message from King Fahd to HH the Amir of Kuwait.

The contents of the message were not disclosed, but diplomatic sources said it dealt with contacts under way to end the deterioration in Lebanon.

"The French naval buildup in the Mediterranean, the Pope's fanatic and biased stands and America's moves at the (UN) Security Council are part of the arrogant campaign aimed at

(Continued on Page 7)

Two more die in uprising

The body of Radi Mahmoud Hassan Salah is taken from a coffin and lowered into a grave (top) and the brutally slain body of Amjed Hussein Jibreen (bottom) lies on a stretcher in the West Bank.

Israeli troops sealed off a town in the occupied West Bank on Saturday to quell unrest following the killing of a 14-year-old Palestinian-American. It was unclear exactly how Amjed Hussein Jibreen died but Palestinians in Ramallah blamed Israelis.

(Full report on Page 6)

NEWSWATCH

Release Obeid, Israel urged: The Iranian-backed Hezbollah was quoted Saturday as calling on Israel to release Shiite Muslim cleric Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid immediately, saying Israel bears responsibility for any repercussions arising from his continued detention.

The Central News Agency, a privately owned daily newsletter based in Christian East Beirut, said an unnamed official of Hezbollah, made the demand in a private interview. (See Page 7)

Diseased livestock: Saudi Arabia on Saturday expressed its determination to bar the import of diseased livestock.

In a report monitored in Cyprus, the Saudi Press Agency said the Ministry of Agriculture had "reaffirmed to all importers the need to watch out for diseased livestock and stressed it would be firm in banning the entry of such imports." (Reuters)

Six drown in Egypt: A Saudi diplomat and his wife and four children drowned when the bus taking them to a picnic in the Nile Delta plunged into a canal, police said on Saturday.

They identified the diplomat as Saleh El Qubaisi, 53, and said the bus driver also died in the accident on Thursday about 100 km (60 miles) northeast of Cairo. Two other daughters survived. (Reuters)

Visit to South Pole: A Saudi scientist said in remarks published on Saturday that he and a colleague planned to become the first Muslims to visit the South Pole.

"We will be the first Muslims ever to set foot on the South Pole. So the first thing we will do when we reach there is to perform prayers of thanks to Almighty Allah," Mustafa Moammar told the Jeddah-based Arab News. He said he and Ibrahim Alim would join scientists and explorers from France, the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, China and Japan on the expedition leaving later this month.

Moammar is a faculty member of the College of Marine Sciences at Jeddah's King Abdulaziz University and Alim is director of the Environmental Research Programme at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals in Dhahran.

"One goal of participation will be to stake the kingdom's claim to membership of international institutes that together control research in the uninhabited southern continent," Moammar said. (Reuters)



A taste of the past

More than 120 young pearl divers returned home yesterday after taking part in the fourth Diving Revival Festival. They were commemorating the old heritage of their Kuwaiti forefathers.

A large number of people welcomed the divers on

their return. Ladies sang, danced and distributed traditional Kuwaiti sweets. Parents and relatives were particularly happy at the safe return of the divers.

Precious peek into the past (See Page 9)

Karachi clampdown

Snipers kill 4

KARACHI, Aug 19, (Agencies): Police in machine-gun-mounted jeeps patrolled Pakistan's southern port city of Karachi today after unidentified gunmen killed four people, Pakistan's official news agency reported.

Another 25 people were wounded when snipers fired into a local market crowded with early-morning shoppers, Associated Press of Pakistan said.

No one has claimed responsibility for the shooting but police blamed Karachi's militant ethnic groups.

Hundreds of people have been killed and many more injured in ethnic-related violence that has swept through Pakistan's southern province of Sindh during the past several years.

The clashes involve Sind nationalist, seeking independence for the southern province; immigrants to Pakistan following partition in 1947, and Pathans, who are the ethnic majority of the North West Frontier Province.

Authorities later imposed curfews and deployed troops to restore order in the four neighbourhoods of the southern port city where the violence occurred.

Jaruzelski nominates Editor

Poles dump Party

Full Report Page 6

Britain's ex-Dubai diplomat arrested

LONDON, Aug 19, (UPI): A senior Foreign Office diplomat said to be a Middle East expert was arrested in London on Thursday for questioning under the prevention of terrorism act and later released on bail, officials said today.

The diplomat, was identified by the BBC as Andrew Balfour, who had held a series of diplomatic posts in the Middle East. The Times said he had recently been called home from the British embassy in the Gulf state of Dubai where he served as a third secretary.

But few other details were immediately available. A spokeswoman at Scotland Yard police headquarters said two British citizens had been questioned in London by detectives on Thursday before being released on bail.

"We can confirm that two men, both British citizens, have been arrested in connection with allegations of crimes under the prevention of terrorism act," a spokeswoman at Scotland Yard police headquarters told UPI. She declined to identify either of the two men.

A Foreign Office official, who referred all inquiries to the police, declined to confirm or deny the report.

But, in a report officials declined to comment on, Independent Television News said the diplomat had apparently been involved in facilitating visas for Iranian nationals.

ITN said Balfour was one of three British diplomats deported in 1986 from Syria in a "tit-for-tat" round of expulsions.

The Daily Mail said the arrests had followed a two-month undercover operation by police investigating breaches in Britain's anti-terrorist defenses.

'Singh soiled'

Mr Clean's little 'Kitts'

Arab Times staff

INDIAN political sources have charged that top opposition leader V.P. Singh deposited \$21 million in a secret bank account in the Caribbean island of St. Kitts during his tenure as Finance Minister in Rajiv Gandhi's government.

The accusation comes as both the ruling Congress (I) Party and the opposition gear up for national elections, which must be held by the end of January 1990.

Singh's newly founded Janata Dal has made corruption in government its main election plank.

In a rare show of unity, member of 12 opposition parties resigned last month from Parliament to protest against alleged government corruption over payoffs in \$1.4 billion arms deal with the Swedish company Bofors.

Singh, who won a reputation of "Mr Clean" for his campaign against government corruption and a crackdown on Indians with undisclosed overseas assets, allegedly made six deposits between Sept 16, 1986 and March 26, 1987 at the First Trust Corporation Limited in St. Kitts.

According to copies of the bank's audited and certified documents obtained by the Arab Times, an account, number 29479, was opened in the name of Singh's son Ajaya naming Singh as the beneficiary. India bars its citizens living in the country from holding foreign bank accounts.

Ajaya Singh, a mid-level Citibank employee in New York, has never been publicly known to have substantial private wealth or income, the sources said.

The bank statements show deposits ranging between \$2 million and \$5 million. Most withdrawals were made in 1988. The interest accrued before the account was emptied on Feb 13,

Exclusive



Singh: secret account

1988, exceeded \$330,000.

The documents raise strong suspicion that funds deposited in the account were illegally obtained through bribes and

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 7)

Turmoil claims 51 in Sri Lanka

Germans urged to pull out

COLOMBO, Aug 19, (AP): Some West Germans working in violence-plagued areas of Sri Lanka have been asked to return home as 51 more people died in the island nation's ethnic wars, officials said today.

The deaths were reported in incidents across the country during the 48-hour period ending at 8 am (0230 GMT) today, said military officials.

They blamed at least 37 of the killings in central and southern Sri Lanka on Sinhalese extremists.

A West German embassy official said her government's agencies, funding six projects in central and north-central provinces, have asked their employees to return home with their families.

Anna Otto-Hallensleben, the embassy official, said she did not have the exact number of the Germans who were expected to leave within a few days.

West Germany is the first country to ask its nationals to leave Sri Lanka since the ethnic strife escalated this month. Earlier this month, United States had asked its citizens to avoid unnecessary travel to Sri Lanka, once considered a tourist haven.

A Tamil insurrection for an independent nation that began six years ago has claimed 11,000 lives in the northeast.

The government's peace overtures to Tamil rebels in 1987 angered ultra-nationalist Sinhalese extremists from the People's Liberation Front (JVP), who launched a campaign of assassinations and strikes.

At least 4,000 killings have been blamed on the front since June 1987, when the government concluded an India-brokered peace accord designed to end the Tamil separatism.

In their latest violence, suspected front members killed 20 people Thursday in nine separate incidents in central Kandy district, the military officials said.

In Kalutara district of southern Sri Lanka, the radicals shot and killed six relatives Thursday in their home, which was then burned, the officials said.

Eight more civilians were killed in separate incidents yesterday in central and southern districts, they said without giving details.

They said five radicals and three Sinhalese policemen were killed in separate incidents in the districts on Thursday.

DAY BY DAY

I really am at a loss to understand why prices of banks' shares do not reflect their intrinsic values.

Supposedly, Kuwaiti banks which are supported and backed by the government are particularly safe to investors. The deposits and paid-up capitals of these banks are guaranteed by the government.

Apparently, issues related to economics do not follow normal trends, or as the proverb goes, winds sometimes blow against the wishes of ships.

Still, I can see no valid reason for prices of banks' shares to retreat or remain stagnant.

Zahed Matar



Happy birthday

Elizabeth Taylor wipes lipstick off Malcolm Forbes' lips after a kiss. Liz is in Tangiers, Morocco to celebrate Forbes' 70th birthday. (Reuters wirephoto)

(Continued from Page 1)

India, which has 880 million people and is the world's most populous nation after China and its 1.2 billion people, has 1.4 million men under arms — the fourth largest military

1987 peace accord in an effort to end a separatist revolt in the north and east of the small Indian Ocean island. But the largest Tamil rebel group rejected the plan and Indian soldiers

"The northeast will definitely be better, provided the replacement

carried him and entourage of government aides, members of his Congress Party and bodyguards on a two-day tour of south India.

Most of his guests have arrived 100 for an unashamedly extravagant event where Cartier is common and Gucci vulgar.

Henry Kissinger, former US secretary of state in a hotel shortly after his arrival in Tangiers. (Reuter wirephoto)

The meal will be traditional Moroccan fare, interspersed with entertainment. In all, 1,000 artists, including belly-dancers.

Private planes choked the one-runway Tangier airport. And Tangier's usual summer tourists gaped in amazement.

In the tropics and said, there are 400,000

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"Unless the international community can reverse the trend," the report said, "the rate of

In the tropics and subtropics, the study said, there are 400,000 identified species, but

The foundation is a government agency that funds basic research in science and engineering.

the charge in the Parliament. Film-star politician Amitabh Bachchan's brother, Ajitabh

MR. CHASE:

V.P. Singh



This clear filter image of Neptune was taken by Voyager Aug 14, 1989, at a range of 14.8 million kilometres. The image shows a dark feature extending westward (left) and northward (up) toward the equator from the great dark spot (GDS). This puzzling phenomenon developed over relatively short period (3 rotations or about 54 hours) and continues to evolve with time. Further study may reveal whether this protrusion represents an actual flow of dark cloud material from the GDS or is a result of atmospheric disturbances with the western boundary of the GDS. This is the first evidence that the GDS lies lower in the atmosphere than the bright clouds. (Reuter wirephoto).

Voyager 2 serves US well

After Jupiter, Voyager 1 turned off its cameras and veered toward interstellar space. Voyager 2 wended through the outer planets, sent back images of Uranus in 1986 — it noted 10 new moons and skewed magnetic poles — and moved on toward Neptune.

PASADENA, California, Aug 19, (UPI): Electronic ears aboard the Voyager 2 space probe, less than a week from its historic flyby of Neptune, have picked up intense, naturally occurring radio emissions from the bluish planet, indicating a magnetic field that could create spectacular auroras, scientists said yesterday.

stream of priceless data about a planet so far from earth — 2.7 billion miles (4.3 billion km) — that it is little more than a featureless blob in the most

25pc of e

"Unless the international community reverse the trend," the report said, "the

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INTERNATIONAL

Pontiff retraces steps of St James

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, Spain, Aug 19, (AP): Pope John Paul II retraced the steps of medieval pilgrims and appealed to youthful idealism today on his third visit to Spain in seven years.

"On the threshold of the year 2000," the Pope told a crowd gathered in front of Santiago's 11th century cathedral, "the church wants to continue to be humanity's travelling companion."

The pontiff made the remarks after walking the final steps of the traditional 800-kilometre (500-mile) pilgrimage of St James. Thousands of young people, from some 33 nations also walked some or all of the journey from the Pyrenees in time to gather on nearby Goro mountain to hear an address by the pope later today on the 4th Vatican-sponsored world youth day.

"Shake the world from its toror" with their faith and idealism, John Paul told the crowd at the cathedral.

Spain's leading daily, the independent El Pais, said today the meeting on the mountain would provide the Pope with an occasion to focus on one of his favourite themes — the battle against the secularisation of society in which youth is the standard bearer.

Spain's King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia greeted John Paul as he arrived today to begin his three-day visit that also was to include stops in the mining centre of Asturias and a trip to the mountain shrine of the Virgin of Covadonga.

The pontiff, during his flight from Rome to Santiago, surprised reporters by saying he was considering visiting Lebanon. He also praised the prospect of a Solidarity-led government in his native Poland.

John Paul told reporters "a certain interest" had been shown by unspecified governments in his desire to visit Lebanon, which has been divided by a civil war pitting Muslims against Christians.



Foul play

An unidentified festival-goer rips the head off a live chicken as he gallops by on his horse on Saturday in Spain during chicken festivities dating back almost

1,000 years. The event called 'A race of chickens' has become increasingly controversial in recent years. (Reuter wirephoto)

PEOPLE AND PLACES

THE DALLES, Oregon: A "terrorist" group has claimed responsibility for the disappearance of 1,300 yards of sand at Squally Point Beach in the Columbia Gorge even though witnesses said a mysterious whirlpool did it.

The mystery of the disappearing sand started two weeks ago when Oregon Department of Fish Wildlife officers watched a large amount of sand from Squally Point Beach wash away in a whirlpool.

Fluctuating water levels in the Columbia river were blamed even though Army Corps of Engineers hydrologists said they doubted a whirlpool could move so much sand.

But then the county began receiving notes from an organisation calling itself the Squally Point Liberation Organisation — or SPLO.

The letters included fuzzy pictures of the hostage, in this case a sand-filled plastic beach bucket tied to the seat of a lawn chair.

The SPLO said the sand would be returned, but only after certain conditions are met, including release of all political prisoners in Wasco County, repeal of a nude sunbathing ordinance, and a lowering of the water level below the Dalles Dam to once again expose Celilo Falls.

If the conditions are not met, the SPLO said "your sand will be crushed grain by grain so its former identity can no longer be established." (UPI)

MARSEILLE, France: Two volunteer firemen were reported killed Friday after they were hit by six tons of water blasted from a fire-fighting airplane, fire officials said.

The two, Gerard Dimartineau, 40, and Mejid Chahbi, 24, were struck by the water Friday while they were fighting a fire in a rubbish dump at trets in a southern France. (UPI)

SYDNEY, Australia: Australian Graham Williams is nursing a wound inflicted by his dog — he wasn't bitten, he was shot.

As police tell it, Williams, his wife and his dog were returning home after a wood-gathering trip when near Bathurst, 200 kilometres (120 miles) west-northwest of here, with a loaded .22 calibre rifle sitting barrel-up on the floor of his utility truck.

Mrs Williams tried to pick up the dog. The animal struggled and knocked the rifle over, causing it to discharge and shoot Williams in the side.

"I presume he inadvertently did it," a police spokeswoman said of the dog. (AP)

MADRID, Spain: Three paintings valued at \$2.3 million including two works by the Spanish master Diego de Velazquez, have disappeared from the Royal Palace, a palace official said Friday.

Members of a restoration crew reported that the three paintings were missing from an area restricted to the public in the National Museum, said the official, who asked not to be identified. He said they were last seen a week ago. (AP)

WASHINGTON: A doctors' group on Friday asked the US Army to stop funding a study in which it said hundreds of oafs have been shot in the head to help figure out how to get wounded soldiers back to the front lines quickly.

The researchers' main conclusion, the group said, was that cats stop breathing as a result.

The research, begun in April 1986 and set to run through September 1991, is being conducted at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge under a \$1.8 million contract.

The animals get an anaesthetic before they are shot but are given no pain relief if they survive, the group said. (Reuter)

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Affluence raises IQs: Study

WASHINGTON, Aug 19, (UPI): A landmark study released last week proves that adopted children, no matter what the background of their natural parents, have higher IQs if raised in affluent homes.

But the study goes on to show that in less affluent surroundings, the biological background of adopted children can play an important role in intellectual performance.

Reporting in the British journal Nature, French researchers said they found the average IQ of adoptees is about 12 points higher when they are reared in a prosperous family than in a poorer home. That finding held true regardless of the socio-economic status of the child's natural parents.

In contrast, researchers discovered that among children adopted by poorer families, youngsters with well-to-do natural parents scored about 15 points higher on IQ tests than those born to less wealthy folks.

The researchers did not speculate on whether the difference was due to genetics or prenatal factors.

The study by Christiane Capron and Michel Dayne of the University of Paris involved giving IQ tests to 38 adopted children who had an average age of 14. According to records, the children all were adopted shortly after birth and were of similar size and health as newborns.

In a commentary in Nature, the University of Minnesota's Matt McGue praised the "well-designed"

French study, saying it should help defuse the 50-year-old scientific debate over whether nature or nurture is the key to a child's intellectual development.

McGué said the findings clearly show that both factors are important.

"The IQ of children is influenced by both their biological background and the circumstances of their rearing," the associate psychology professor said.

Although the new study found the effects of nature and nurture are each significant on their own, McGue said it fell short of identifying exactly how those influences act — or detecting interaction between the two factors.

Battle brewing over fortune

ORANGE, Texas, Aug 19, (UPI): The Lutch Stark fortune, estimated at between \$300 million and \$1 billion, is at stake in a lawsuit that could thrust the extremely private Stark family into the limelight.

Stark is the most prominent name in Orange, a southeast Texas City sitting on the Louisiana border. Because of the family's wealth and philanthropy, the city boasts one of the nation's finest private art museums and a theatre where touring Broadway shows are performed.

H.J. Lutch Stark made his fortune in cattle, oil, timber and fur. The lawsuit has been filed against Nelda Stark, 80, the only living heir to the Stark fortune and Lutch's third wife. She is an extremely private person who has appeared publicly only a few times since her husband died in 1965.

When Lutch Stark died he left \$1 million each, to his adopted sons Bill and Homer. The lawsuit, filed by Bill Stark's widow Ida Marie Stark, focuses on the will of his first wife, Nita Stark.

Honston attorney Michael Gallagher says Nita Stark died in 1939 and her will left the two sons half the community property accumulated during her marriage with Lutch.

Gallagher says Lutch fraudulently hid his assets in separate estate so the community property only amounted to about \$200,000.

After 28 years of being married to one of the highest wage earners in the country, she (Nita Stark) was essentially bankrupt (due to debts), which makes very little sense," Gallagher says.

He said Ida Marie Stark became suspicious of the amount of community property only recently.

When Nita died each of the boys, Lutch's only children, received \$45,000 each from her share of the community property. The rest of Lutch's estate went to Nelda and the Stark Foundation, dedicated to philanthropy.

Lutch married his third wife Nelda in 1943. He was only married to his second wife, Ruby for 15 months when she died, Gallagher says.

The lawsuit, filed in March 1988 in a state district court in Orange, is asking for half of all of Lutch Stark's holdings in 1939. It is expected to go to trial next year. Homer Stark is still alive but has decided not to get involved.

Attorneys for Nelda Stark and the philanthropic Stark Foundation deny the charges. Louis Bagwell of the Houston law firm of Baker and Botts says he thinks the case may never go to trial because it lacks evidence of fraud.

"We think we've got a good case," Bagwell says. "We've seen nothing to cause us to believe that there is a fraudulent or even an accidental withholding of property, or certainly nothing to suggest any wrongdoing."

Nelda Stark would not grant an interview.

Some residents of Orange will not talk about the family because of the foundation's influence on cultural affairs and the Stark name.

"All I can say is they've been very good to me," says Sidney Touchet, who worked for the Starks for years and retired in 1986.

The Stark family has always been involved in philanthropy. Lutch Stark served on the University of Texas board of regents from 1919 to 1945 and spearheaded the drive to build Austin's Memorial Stadium.

Lutch Stark also donated the money to build a lighted football stadium in Orange, a rare luxury in the 1930s.

'That's my courtyard'

Not so royal Helmsley

NEW YORK, Aug 19, (UPI): Hotel queen Leona Helmsley, who boasts in advertisements that her guests are treated royally, doesn't roll out the red carpet to New Yorkers who try to use a public courtyard at one of her hotels, a critic said today.

In fact, says city comptroller Harrison Goldin, she calls out the palace guard.

Helmsley, 69, who has been portrayed as a ruthless businesswoman during her tax evasion trial in Manhattan, reportedly ordered security guards at the midtown Helmsley Palace to boot out the people who used the open courtyard next to the hotel to read or eat lunch.

Helmsley's decree, however, violated an agreement with the city because the courtyard on Madison Avenue near 50th Street was deemed an open space for the public as part of a 1976 development deal, Goldin said at a news conference yesterday.

Helmsley and her husband, Harry, agreed to keep the courtyard open to the public in exchange for the right to build the luxury hotel 62,000 square feet larger than zoning laws allowed, said Goldin, a mayoral candidate who has trailed in the polls.

"I reclaim this park in the name of the people of the city of New York," Goldin said over and over, as photographers captured him trying to plant the city's blue, white and orange flag in the stone courtyard.

As Goldin posed for the cameras, a Helmsley employee, palace assistant manager Eric Tully, walked into the courtyard to investigate, saying he wanted to "advise the general manager what's going on."

Tully, after wishing Goldin good luck in his mayoral bid, returned to the hotel, refusing to comment on whether hotel guards actually had asked lunch-time loungers to leave the courtyard.

A few minutes later, however, another hotel official marched into the courtyard declaring, "We're locking this courtyard" up. This belongs to the hotel ... this is not a city park."

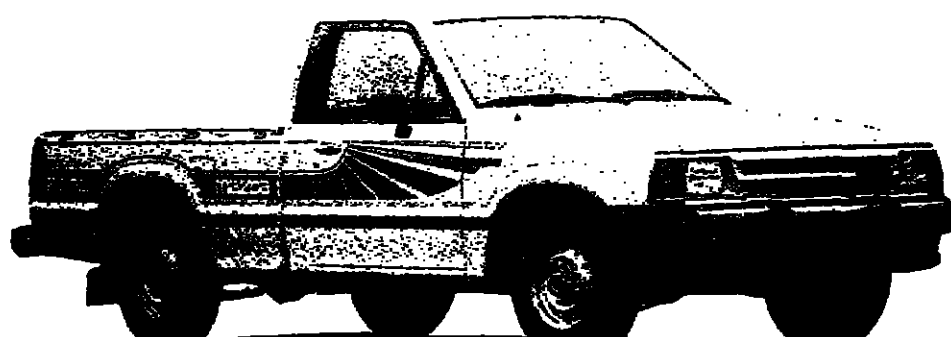
The heavyset man refused to give his name or discuss the reported evictions and returned to the hotel without locking the heavy iron gates.

Officials with the hotel chain were not available today to comment on Goldin's charges.

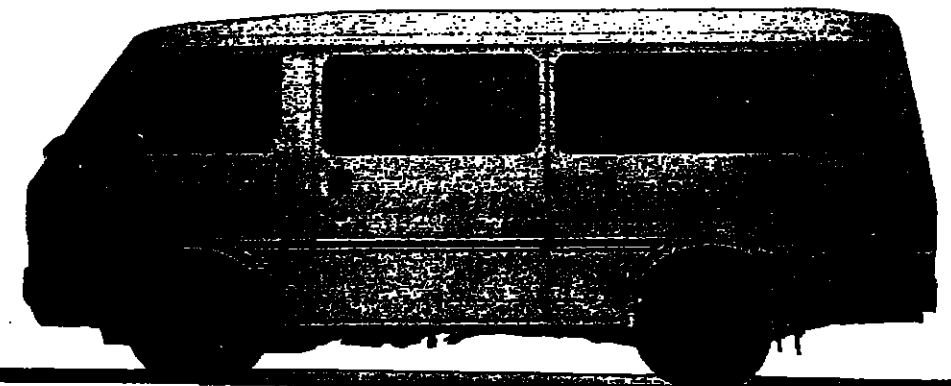
Goldin blamed Helmsley and her opponent, Mayor Ed Koch, for allowing the courtyard to be closed to the public.

MAZDA and Summer

Pick-up



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Snake's alive! Catching 250-lb python isn't easy

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, Aug 19, (UPI): Catching the 20-foot (six metre) reclusive python that had taken up residence in David Spalding's house was no simple task.

It took two days of planning and prodding before a crew of seven was able to haul him away on Thursday.

Spalding first spotted the 250-pound (113 kg) snake in his backyard about a month, dining on a raccoon.

His efforts to find someone to help him remove the python from his property paid off Thursday when Todd Hardwick, who runs an animal removal

company called Pesky Critters, snared the beast.

"You can understand this whole thing has us very upset," said Spalding.

Hardwick speculated the snake, which is native to southeast Asia, might have been released by someone who once kept it as a pet. "It's common for exotic snakes to be released in South Florida," he said.

Efforts to capture the snake were complicated by the reptile's size and its choice of nest — an 18-inch-high (45 cm) crawl space under the Spalding's living room.

Hardwick dug small tunnels below the home

Wednesday to locate the snake. On Thursday, he snugged it.

"Piece of cake," he said.

Catching the python turned into a neighbourhood event and some were more than glad to see the visitor off.

"I've got two little dogs. I've been afraid to let them out," said Claire Elhation, who lives next door to the Spaldings.

"We saw the head at first and everyone said, 'wow!'" said Bob Moxley, a park ranger at Hugh Taylor Birch State Recreation Area next to the Spalding home.

INTERNATIONAL



Victim of drug traffickers

Hospital personnel rush presidential candidate Luis Carlos Galan into the Kennedy Hospital late Friday after he was shot at a political rally outside Bogota. Galan later died from his wounds. The national police

director has blamed the assassination on drug traffickers. (Reuter wirephoto)

Medellin cartel kills top politician

Colombia to extradite drug barons

BOGOTA, Aug. 19. (Agencies): President Virgilio Barco has decreed emergency plans to extradite Colombian drug barons after atop politician was shot dead in the climax of a week of assassinations of officials.

Saying the survival of Colombian society was at stake, Barco announced that drug traffickers wanted abroad could now be summarily extradited, bypassing the courts.

He also said new measures would be adopted to protect the country's judges, who have been on strike since Thursday in protest at their lack of protection from hired assassins.

Barco called a special cabinet meeting yesterday which lasted all night to discuss the latest wave of killings. They culminated in the gunning down of the government's leading candidate for presidential elections next year.

Senator Luis Carlos Galan, an outspoken anti-drugs campaigner, was fatally wounded at an open-air political rally in a Bogota suburb yesterday.

At least 10 others were wounded as spectators screamed and ran in panic when a gunman opened fire.

Galan, 46, died of several gunshot wounds to the chest, said Bogota Mayor Andres Pastrana.

Galan had escaped an assassination attempt Aug 5 in the city of Medellin by drug traffickers, who police said had offered \$300,000 to kill him.

Galan, one of six Liberal Party candidates seeking the presidential nomination for the May 1990 president, was widely considered the front-runner to replace Barco.

"When the individual began firing, (Galan) fell to the ground," said photographer Jesus Calderon. Galan maintained consciousness "and asked only that he be taken quickly to the hospital."

The wounded included one of Galan's bodyguards, two local political leaders and supporters near the podium.

"The people were running, screaming and crying," Calderon said.

The gunman escaped, and police mounted a search.

The Medellin cartel claimed responsibility earlier yesterday for the slaying of a provincial police chief, Col. Waldemar Franklin Quintero, in calls to local radio stations. Franklin Quintero had led a campaign against them.

Franklin Quintero recently had given up his official bodyguards and asked that they instead be assigned to protect judges.

Franklin Quintero, 46, police commander for Antioquia province where Medellin is located, left his home yesterday in his chauffeur-driven car that had gone about 450 feet (130 metres) when it was cut off by another car and five gunmen emerged, officials said.

"They fired without mercy for several minutes at the colonel, who was hit more than a hundred times," an unidentified witness told Radio Caracol. The witness said the chauffeur also was injured.

Witnesses said Franklin Quintero's car was destroyed by gunfire. The interior was covered with blood.

Franklin Quintero directed the local campaign against cocaine trafficking and led several major raids that resulted in the seizure of tons of the drug and the arrest of several dealers.

On Wednesday night, Magistrate Carlos Valencia Garcia was shot to death in Bogota, hours after rejecting appeals filed on behalf of two Medellin leaders.

On Thursday night, an armed band intercepted a police van carrying 18 arrested people and set them free. They included several suspected drug traffickers, officials said.

"It's terrifying what is happening in Colombia," said Justice Minister Monica de Grieff.

"The only way to confront this challenge is by fighting together. The government, judges, the armed forces and the citizenry to stop the wave of violence," she said.

"The severity of the measures adopted is justified by the threat represented by the narcotics traffickers," President Barco said in a televised speech.

Immediate measures decreed included extraditing traffickers wanted abroad, seizing drug dealers' assets, and giving power to hold suspects incommunicado for up to seven days.

The United States seeks a long list of Colombian drug traffickers, including leaders of the Medellin and Cali cocaine cartels, which US officials say control up to 80 per cent of the cocaine smuggled into the US.

Judges began their strike following the Wednesday night killing of an appeals court judge

Castro threat to delay pullout

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 19. (Agencies): Cuban President Fidel Castro has threatened to delay the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola because his soldiers in the African nation have been attacked by rebels, the official news agency reported yesterday.

In a letter to UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Castro accused Angolan rebels of attacking Cuban forces, the official Prensa Latina news agency said in a report monitored in Mexico City.

"These criminal and irresponsible actions could have serious consequences," Castro said in his letter to the UN leader. "They could influence in an adverse way the compliance with the timetable on withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola."

Prensa Latina said the letter was published in Granma, Havana's Communist Party daily Granma.

Cuba has agreed to a phased withdrawal that calls for having all its troops out of Angola by July 1, 1991. It has been helping Angola's Marxist government fight guerrillas from UNITA, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola.

UNITA has been fighting the government since Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

"On the morning of Aug 14 a group of 15-20 armed subversives of UNITA ambushed a Cuban truck 16 miles (24 kilometres) north of Cubal, province of Benguela," Castro's letter was quoted as saying.

Castro said six Cuban soldiers were killed in the attack.

"Because of this act, the Cuban government wants to reiterate that it will act in whatever manner guarantees, in whatever circumstance, the security of its internationalist combatants in Angola," Prensa Latina quoted the letter as saying.

Cuba's Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon Quinones, confirmed there were about 30,000 Cuban troops in Angola prior to the withdrawal. About 1,000 have died there in the past 10 years, according to the report from Jorge Risquet, a member of Cuba's Politburo.

Western estimates are that 4,000 Cubans have died in Angola. UNITA claims that the figure is higher.

There are 1,000 Soviet military advisers involved in planning and supervising combat operations, according to Western estimates.

Angolan rebels claimed yesterday that the government had launched a major offensive on its southeastern bases, casting serious doubts over the peace talks.

UNITA rebel officials told a Lisbon news conference that their fighters were resisting a three-pronged attack by Angolan government troops on bases in Mexico, Cuando Cubango and Cuanene.

Rebel spokesman Norberto Castro said UNITA would "reply with identical violence" to the alleged attacks.

A statement motivated yesterday from the rebel's bush stronghold of Jamba said government Armed Forces chief Antonio dos Santos Franca was coordinating the offensive.

However, reports yesterday from the Zairean capital of Kinshasa said Dos Santos Franca arrived there Wednesday heading a 12-member government delegation to resume peace talks with the rebels.

Uganda: Uganda has released 1,086 people who had been detained as suspected rebels or rebel supporters, Radio Uganda said today.

The prisoners were freed because calm is returning to several areas in the north and east where rebels had been active, the state-run radio added.

Mozambique: President Joaquim Chissano said he was briefed yesterday by South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha about the circumstances surrounding this week's tumultuous leadership change in South Africa.

A statement from Chissano's office offered few details about Botha's visit, which was not announced in advance.

It said the foreign minister informed Chissano of the events which led to the resignation of President P.W. Botha on Monday under pressure from his cabinet. Education Minister F.W. de Klerk, leader of the governing National Party, was installed as acting president pending elections Sept 6.

A South African delegation forced out of a Paris meeting of world mayors yesterday, after pressure from anti-apartheid campaigners and black African participants, delegates said.

Call for UN anti-drug force

NEW YORK, Aug. 19. (AP): Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley pressed yesterday for a United Nations anti-drug strike force that would share intelligence and mount paramilitary attacks against drug traffickers.

"We are dealing with an international criminal conspiracy which the world has never before witnessed in history," Manley said at a news conference in New York.

Manley proposed structuring the force along the lines of the UN Peacekeeping Forces, in part to avoid Latin America's historical distrust of the United States intervention of local affairs.

A multinational force would eliminate the nationalistic hostility that has greeted United States anti-drug operations in Bolivia and Peru.

"No one has ever quarreled with a UN Peacekeeping Force,"

Plan to snatch drug baron botched

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. (UPI): A plan to snatch a reputed Venezuelan narcotics leader and rush him to the United States to face drug charges was vetoed because of poor planning, the State Department said yesterday.

Otto Reich, then serving as ambassador to Venezuela, complained to the State Department about the plan proposed last year by the US Customs Service and US marshals to arrest Jorge Ochoa, the purported leader of the Medellin cocaine cartel.

Reich told the Washington Post that the plan could have resulted in violent street actions in Caracas and posed a threat to the security of his embassy personnel.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher backed up Reich.

"The plan to capture Mr Ochoa was unco-ordinated," Boucher said. "It did not have the approval of Washington agencies, the embassy in Caracas, and the Venezuelan government."

The department insists, as do other law enforcement agencies, on well co-ordinated foreign drug operations.

Ochoa, believed to live on a large, well-guarded estate outside Medellin, Colombia, faces numerous US federal grand jury indictments on narcotics trafficking charges. Colombia does not have an extradition treaty with the United States, and Ochoa's planned visit to Caracas last October was seen as an opportunity to bring the suspect to a US courtroom.

The Post reported that the drug enforcement administration was doubtful of the information about Ochoa's plan to travel to Caracas and questioned if US agents were walking into a trap.

countries, Manley said. Many countries will need paramilitary assistance to battle guerrilla groups allied to drug barons, Manley said, an apparent reference to the alliances such as the one between the Maoist Shining Path guerrillas

and the Medellin cartel that has made large parts of Peru ungovernable.

The strike force would provide a nucleus of experienced operatives as well as train new narcotics and intelligence officers.

the prime minister said. In addition, the strike force would only act at the invitation of a host country.

The strike force would centralise intelligence gathering, which would greatly help tracing the flow of drug money between



Leland eulogised

Rep. Mickey Leland, killed in a plane crash in Africa last week, was eulogised at his alma mater on Friday night as a man who "brought the Bible to life" in his struggle to help the hungry and downtrodden.

Some 5,000 people, including black leaders from across the nation and a large congressional contingent, remembered Leland during a two-hour ceremony at Texas Southern University that followed a memorial service earlier in Austin.

Leland, 44, D-Texas, was on his sixth trip to Africa as chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger when his plane crashed into an Ethiopian mountainside last week, killing him and 15 others.

The casket in which Leland will be buried upon his return from Ethiopia was placed before the speakers at the service. It was Leland's wish to be buried in a "plain pine box" as was John D. Menil, the late Houston millionaire who Leland credited with exposing him to art and culture.

Leland is survived by his pregnant wife and 3-year-old son Jarrett. Picture right, shows Mrs Leland (third from left) sitting behind the wooden casket during the memorial service. Seated from left to right: Mrs Leland's brother, Rick Walton, and at right is Debra Chase, a friend. (Reuter wirephoto)



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Smith's plane 'strayed'

BILOXI, Mississippi, Aug. 19. (AP): US investigators say mechanical failure didn't cause the Cessna 177 crash that killed Congressman Larkin Smith and his pilot.

The comments of National Transportation Safety Board investigator Jeff Kennedy came Thursday, as Gulf coast residents mourned the deaths of Smith and pilot Chuck Vierling in separate funerals.

Smith, a 45-year-old freshman congressman from Mississippi's 5th district, and Vierling, 58, died Sunday night when their single-engine plane crashed into the Desoto National Forest en route to the Gulf coast.

Investigators with the NTSB have said Vierling apparently strayed from his anticipated flight path on the 70-mile (113-kilometre) trip before clipping a 70-foot (21-metre) pine tree.

"There was no structural failure of the airplanes," said Kennedy, who spent three days in Mississippi before returning Thursday to his Miami, Florida, office.

D'Amato's brother implicated Paid to 'influence' senator

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19. (UPI): Unisys Corp., a huge defence contractor, paid the brother of Senator Alfonse D'Amato, Republican of New York, \$70,000 a year "for his influence with the senator's office on contacts with the Pentagon," American television, NBC News, reported yesterday.

D'Amato's brother, Armand, a Long Island lawyer, was D'Amato's campaign manager. Unisys hired Armand D'Amato for help in getting a \$100 million Navy contract for the Aegis shipboard radar system, NBC said.

Armand D'Amato's "name came up on wiretaps in the Pentagon (procurement scandal)

investigation last year when a Unisys official was talking about how to handle "the rest of D'Amato's pay," NBC reported.

The network said: "Former company officials have now told investigators Unisys paid Armand D'Amato \$70,000 a year for his influence with the senator's office on contacts with the Pentagon."

In an interview with NBC, Armand D'Amato said he made "routine inquiries to a staff member on behalf of Unisys during the course" of his employment with Unisys. He said, however, "we never contacted the senator."

But a former aide in D'Amato's office said that

Armand D'Amato, acting on behalf of Unisys, handed him the draft of a letter to the head of Navy shipbuilding, asking about the status of the Aegis contract, NBC said. The former aide, who was not identified by NBC, said he mailed the letter under the senator's name, the network reported.

Senator D'Amato said he did not know his brother was being paid by Unisys. The senator also said he did not know about the letter or his brother's role involving the communication.

"If they hired him because they thought he was a good lawyer, that's fine," D'Amato said.

national case for its glasnost-era readers in a long article published under the single-word headline "Betrayal."

"Betrayal by such a high-ranking official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is unprecedented in all the years since the (Second World) War," Nedelya said.

It said Shevchenko's career began with his enrolment at the elite Institute of Foreign Relations where he studied with "golden youth" — the children of Communist Party and government leaders, diplomats and generals — blossomed in a series of

increasingly responsible posts and ended abruptly with his defection.

"The name 'Shevchenko' should not even be mentioned," Nedelya said.

The newspaper article was the most recent account of previously taboo subjects under Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign of "glasnost," or openness.

Though Nedelya repeated Soviet newspaper reports that "Shevchenko was the victim of provocations by US special services," he said in the forward to his 1985 bestseller "Breaking with Mos-

cow" that his defection was prompted by disillusionment with the Soviet elite to which he had belonged.

"I have never regarded myself as a spy in the true sense of the word, nor have I felt that I betrayed my people or my country," the Ukrainian-born Shevchenko wrote.

"I have always loved Russia and always will," he said. "For a relatively short time in my life I worked with the US government to help it better comprehend the objectives and actions of the Soviet regime — a regime I knew well and had grown to hate."

INTERNATIONAL

Benazir denies differences with President

ISLAMABAD, Aug 19, (KUNA): Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto today denied there are any differences between her and President Ghulam Ishaq Khan.

The President and the prime minister are part of the same government functioning in accordance with the constitution, she said while talking to reporters at Lahore airport.

She noted that the country's constitution was very clear on all points, including the powers of the president and the prime minister.

Benazir made the statement when asked to comment on persistent press reports that she and Ishaq Khan sharply differed on the question of retaining or relieving Admiral Fikhar Ahmed Sirohey as chairman of Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee.

Earlier this month newspapers had published reports that Ishaq Khan wanted to retain Sirohey but Benazir wanted to sack him.

Benazir however, admitted differences between the Pakistan Peoples Party government at the centre and the Islamic Jamhoori Itehad government in the Punjab but said these differences could not be called a conflict between the two governments.

Differences were part of democratic norms, she said, noting that since democracy had not been in vogue in Pakistan long enough people gave them undue importance which was not fair.

Later she formally launched the Lahore edition of Peshawar English daily The Frontier Post.

Speaking on the occasion she said that her government had restored press freedom as part of restoration of democracy. This was essential because press was the fourth pillar of the state after judiciary, parliament and the executive.

But there was nothing like absolute freedom of the press, she said, adding that

the newspapers must behave responsibly and in accordance with the national interests and laws of the land.

In this connection she particularly mentioned the Official Secrets Act and regretted that lately a section of the press had violated the provisions of this law.

One newspaper disclosed the classified information contained in the files of Pakistan's top intelligence organisation, the ISI (the Inter Services Intelligence), she said.

However, the government did not take any action against the newspaper despite lot of pressure on it, she said but warned that a democratic government would become a total failure if it did not take action against those who disclosed the vital secrets of the state.

Zahid Malik, editor of Islamabad's evening daily Pakistan Observer is currently under police detention for publishing some state secrets.



Benazir part

Phasing out of US bases urged

MANILA, Aug 19, (AP): A Philippine congressman has filed a bill recommending a nine-year phase-out of US military bases in the country.

Rep Jose de Venecia, a member of President Corason Aquino's Struggle for a Democratic Filipino Party, filed the bill Wednesday. Copies of the bill were distributed to news agencies today.

De Venecia said the bill was a "middle-ground approach" designed to accommodate leftists and nationalists calling for the ouster of the bases, and businessmen and "centrists" wanting the bases to stay.

Under the proposal, the United States must pay the Philippines about \$750 million a year for nine years. Part of the payment would go to the construction of a munitions factory for the Philippine military and to a \$150 million debt reduction scheme.

De Venecia said a transition period would give the United States time to physically relocate its forces to Guam, Saipan, Tinian and Palau Islands, Japan, Singapore and other places.

Review

The proposal also gives the United States and the Philippines a chance to review the arrangement in 1994 and 1998.

De Venecia said that with the resolution, he sees the eventual pullout of the Soviet Union in Cam Ranh Bay and the entry of ASEAN to the Association of South East Asian Nations.

SEAN, which groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand, has called for the dismantling of all foreign military bases in the region.

De Venecia says the proposal is in line with a growing global trend toward demilitarisation.

Meeting

Armed forces Chief Gen. Renato de Villa departs tomorrow for the United States to meet with his counterpart and urges speedy delivery of material to fight communist insurgents, the defence secretary said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

KAL jet flies to China

SEOUL, Aug 19, (AP): A chartered KAL jetliner carrying 189 passengers landed in China today, making the first direct flight to that country by a South Korean airline, airline officials said.

The two nations have no diplomatic relations.

The KAL Boeing 727, carrying 134 tourists and 35 athletes and sports officials, landed at Shanghai about two hours after it departed Seoul shortly after 6 am (2100 GMT), the officials said.

Survey on acid rain

TOKYO, Aug 19, (AP): Japan will conduct its most comprehensive survey of the effects of acid rain on its forests, which cover 70 per cent of the country's land area, officials said today.

The survey aims at examining the present state of forests and the damage caused by acid rain, as well as developing ways to improve the condition of the forests, said Yutaka Kawakawa of the forestry agency.

Acid rain results from the mixture of rain and sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide and other pollutants which are expelled into the atmosphere mainly from factories and electric power plants.

China protests

BEIJING, Aug 19, (AP): China today protested to Vietnam over its decision to set up a scientific and economic zone for disputed islands in the South China Sea, calling the move a violation of territorial sovereignty.

"The Vietnamese authorities' decision... is illegal," an unnamed foreign ministry spokesman was quoted as saying by the official Xinhua news agency.

Vietnam recently declared the zone off Vietnam's east coast, including the disputed Spratly islands.

Gas explosion

BEIJING, Aug 19, (Reuters): Forty-eight miners were killed in a gas explosion in two adjoining coal mines in northern China this week, the China daily said today.

The newspaper said the explosion ripped through the mines, one of the run by the military, in Datong on Sunday.



A policeman hits a young picket with a teargas cannon during a transport strike in Bangladesh. (Reuters wirephoto)

Scores of vehicles damaged

Dhaka drivers end strike

DHAKA, Aug 19, (Reuters): Thousands of Bangladesh transport workers protesting at penalties for causing fatal accidents went on strike for six hours today, and police said 25 were arrested after scores of vehicles were attacked and damaged.

"Accidents are always an act of God, no matter if the driver of a vehicle is responsible for it," said the Bangladesh Transport Workers Association, seeking a cut in the seven-year minimum jail term for drivers causing fatal accidents.

The strike was called as an indefinite stoppage over this and other issues, but the workers went back after six hours following talks with the government.

Police said the strike took 25,000 buses and trucks off the road and stranded tens of thousands of people.

The official Radio Bangladesh said the workers reached complete agreement with Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed and Transport Minister Anwar

Hossain, but gave no details.

"At least a dozen workers were injured and the driver of a motor rickshaw was killed, when clashes broke out in the capital, Dhaka, between supporters and those opposing the strike. Police said no one was arrested."

The strikers were attacked with knives and stones by "hired goons of the government," said Wajeduddin Khan, spokesman for the striking unions.

The police said there were no reports of violence this morning.

Hossain held two rounds of inconclusive talks late yesterday with the union representatives, the minister's aide, Faiz Ahmed Chowdhury, said.

"We are ready to negotiate on 10 other points, but not on pardoning for fatal accidents," the official said last night. "If we give in, that would amount to going back to the law of the jungles."

Suh retracts confession

S. Korean by-election

Roh's party wins

SEOUL, Aug 19, (AP): A lawmaker charged with espionage said today he was forced to make false confession implicating opposition leader Kim Dae-Jung, according to lawyers sent to represent him.

The lawyers, all members of Kim's party, said Rep. Suh Kyung-Won denied prosecution charges that he had given the opposition leader \$10,000 after secretly visiting communist North Korea last summer.

Suh also denied that he belatedly informed Kim of his 1988 North Korean visit in April, a charge that could incriminate the opposition leader for failing to report the case to authorities.

"I had to make the false confession - under intolerable physical conditions after being kept away for five days and nights," Suh was quoted as telling the lawyers.

Prosecutors denied that they had coerced Suh into making a false confession to incriminate Kim, president of the largest opposition group, the Party for Peace and Democracy.

"Denial of charges is a common trick used by spy suspects. We have enough evidence to support our charges and we will present it to the court," said one prosecutor, who asked that he not be identified by name.

The lawyers said Suh made the denial in a one-hour meeting at a Seoul prison where he is awaiting trial, expected to begin next month. It was Suh's first meeting

with lawyers after prosecutors implicated Kim Dae-Jung in the case last week.

Suh, a former member of Kim's party, was arrested in late June on multiple charges of espionage stemming from his secret visit to North Korea Aug 19-21 last year. He was charged with spying for the North in return for \$50,000 he allegedly received after meeting with North Korean President Kim Il Sung.

Prosecutors quoted Suh as confessing last week that he gave Kim Dae-Jung \$10,000 after returning from North Korea. Prosecutors subpoenaed Kim Dae-Jung on Tuesday to testify.

The opposition leader said he will comply with the subpoena to clear up the charges against him. He denied any involvement in the case, and said the charges against him were part of a government effort to discredit the opposition.

Kim also denied that he had learned of Suh's trip in mid-April, and said he did not find out about it until about two months later.

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Tokyo sanitation workers find cash in the trash

TOKYO, Aug 19, (AP): For the second time in three days a large bundle of cash was found in trash today, shocking sanitation workers who are used to some of the highest quality garbage in the world.

Workers sorting garbage at a trash processing centre in Nara prefecture in western Japan found 1 million yen (\$7,000 US) in a briefcase, a prefectural police official said, speaking on condition he not be identified.

No identification was found on the bag,

and police do not know why the money was thrown out, the official said.

On Thursday, garbage collectors found 1.24 million yen (\$8,700) in a pile of trash discarded in a residential section of Tokyo, police said.

Police were still investigating the case and do not know who left the money, officials said.

In April, more than 200 million yen (\$14 million) was discovered in a bamboo grove near Yokohama, south of Tokyo.

The discovery prompted extensive news coverage and a police investigation. Eventually a company owner, Kazuyasu Noguchi, said he made the money from trading rare postage stamps and hid it to avoid a tax investigation. The money was returned to him.

Japanese frequently throw away relatively new appliances and other household goods when they buy new ones, in part because of the small size of Japanese homes.

Defence Minister Qin seen on TV

BEIJING, Aug 19, (AP): Defence Minister Qin Jiwei, who Chinese sources have said is engaged in a power struggle for control of the army and ultimately the country, appeared on national television today at the funeral of a colleague.

Qin was shown briefly with other top Chinese leaders in a news report on the funeral of Fu Zhong, a legislator and former officer. The report did not identify him by name, but a later report by the official Xinhua news agency listed him among the top officials attending.

Chinese sources say Qin, 75, is fighting with President Yang Shangkun for control of the army, which would mean control of the nation after senior leader Deng Xiaoping dies.

Deng, who will turn 85 on Tuesday, is believed to be seriously ill. Yang is 81 and believed to be in good health.

The central military commission, rather than the Defence Ministry, long has been the real decision-maker in Chinese military affairs.

Sources said on Thursday that troops commanded by Yang led Qin away from his Beijing residence on Wednesday evening after Qin argued with Yang over which of them should be promoted to first vice-chairman of the powerful central military commission.

The post had been held by former Communist Party General Secretary Zhao Ziyang until he was stripped of all his jobs following the spring pro-democracy uprising.

Deng is chairman of the commission, making the holder of the first vice-chairman's post second only to Deng in political power. Yang currently is permanent vice chairman and secretary general of the commission.

Several Chinese sources in Beijing and Hong Kong said that after being led away, Qin was placed under house arrest. Today's television appearance seemed to rule that out.

The Defence Ministry denied to foreign reporters yesterday that Qin was arrested or deposed as defence minister, but did not specifically deny he was detained by troops on Yang's orders. Telephone calls to the Defence Ministry were not answered today.

One source, in Hong Kong, said Yang held a meeting last night of top military commanders to discuss his appointment as first vice-chairman, but that the commanders did not express support. Yang asked them to stay in Beijing until a decision could be reached.

The source said Deng's health is deteriorating rapidly. Military commanders who visited him this week found he was so infirm that he could not speak, the sources said. He said his information came from the wife of one commander and the secretary of another.

A Western diplomat said the reported struggle between Qin and Yang is over more than just the military commission's vice-chairmanship.

"The general consensus here is that it's the top post, Deng's position, that is at stake," he said on condition of not being identified.

Zhao was ousted after losing a power struggle with conservatives who accused him of supporting student pro-democracy protests this spring. Yang reportedly backed the military assault on the protesters June 3-4, but Qin was believed to have opposed it.

The Western diplomat said regional military commanders were opposing Yang's attempts to elevate himself through his extensive family connections in the military.

Yang is one of the strongest military families in China. His younger brother, Yang Baibing, is director of the Army's general political department. His son-in-law, Chi Haotian, runs the headquarters of the army's general staff.

China denies killings

GENEVA, Aug 19, (Reuters): China denied yesterday that its troops killed thousands of students while suppressing their pro-democracy movement in June, and said outsiders had no right to lecture Beijing on quelling internal rebellion.

Chinese government delegate Yu Zhizhong told a United Nations human rights panel that a statement it heard from a dissident student leader about killings in Beijing's Tiananmen Square and tanks running over tents with students inside were "a far cry from the facts."

Yu said that when troops early on June 4 cleared the central square of students who had occupied it for two months, "the students' withdrawal was on the whole peaceful."

"During the process, not a single person was killed by the troops or run over by military vehicles. It is sheer fabrication to assert that the square was bathed in blood," Yu told the UN sub-commission on prevention of discrimination and protection of minorities.

On Wednesday, one of the

Australia admits Dissidents sheltered

BEIJING, Aug 19, (Reuters): Australia's embassy in Beijing revealed today it had given refuge to a dissident Chinese pop star for 10 weeks but that nobody else on the run from the authorities was sheltering in the compound.

It had been widely rumoured that singer Hou Dejian and student leader Chai Ling, who is on a police wanted list, were both hiding in the Australian embassy.

Chai, a 23-year-old psychology graduate, was in hiding in China but not in the embassy, an informed Western source said.

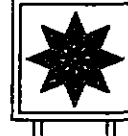
Hou, a singer and composer who rallied students and led a hunger-strike in Tiananmen Square, disappeared after troops and tanks moved in on June 4. Ten weeks later on Thursday night he made a dramatic reappearance on state television looking relaxed and smiling.

An Australian embassy official said Hou had sought shelter in their compound in eastern Beijing on June 8.


The ambassador told the Chinese authorities and negotiations began on conditions that would allow Hou to leave the embassy, the official said.

Eventually Hou accepted the conditions as satisfactorily and returned to his family in Beijing, the official added.

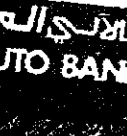
Yu said verified figures showed that about 3,000 civilians were wounded and more than 200 killed, including 36 students. Some innocent people who had mingled with rioters were accidentally killed or wounded, and the government greatly regretted this, he added.




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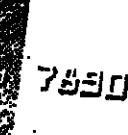
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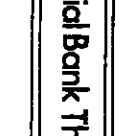
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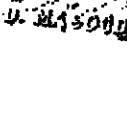
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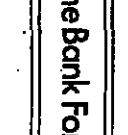
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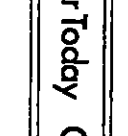
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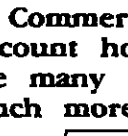
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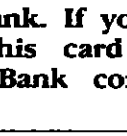
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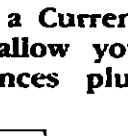
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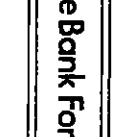
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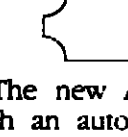
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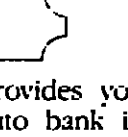
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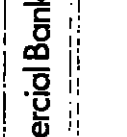
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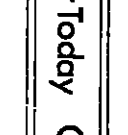
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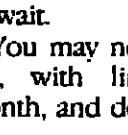
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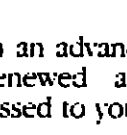
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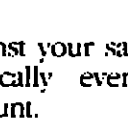
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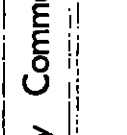
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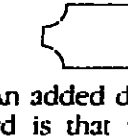
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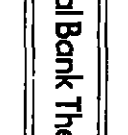
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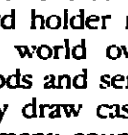
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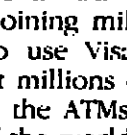
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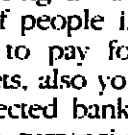
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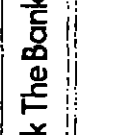
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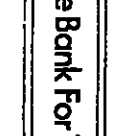
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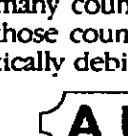
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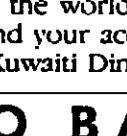
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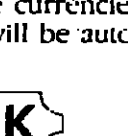
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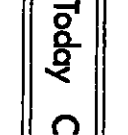
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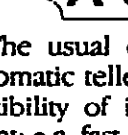
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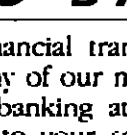
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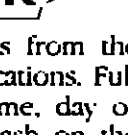
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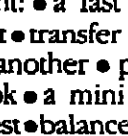
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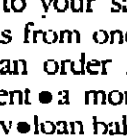
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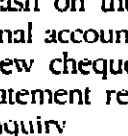
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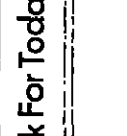
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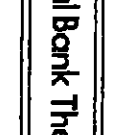
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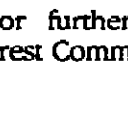
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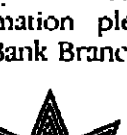
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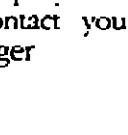
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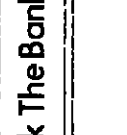
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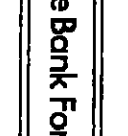
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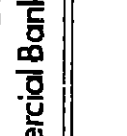
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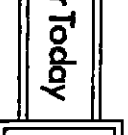
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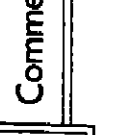
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INTERNATIONAL/MIDEAST

Germans tell of dramatic escapes

GIESSEN, West Germany, Aug. 19. (AP): Joerg and his wife, Birgit, spent three days crawling through hot Hungarian cornfields and mosquito-infested woods in a desperate escape from East Germany, fearing they'd die from thirst or be caught.

"We had no food or water, and sometimes we had no more strength," 27-year-old Joerg said yesterday after arriving in West Germany, tired and sunburned from the ordeal.

But Joerg and Birgit said they grew desperate in East Germany because of what they said was the government's steadfast resistance to political reform.

Like other escapees interviewed at the Giessen camp by the Associated Press, Joerg and Birgit said publishing their last names could create difficulties for relatives still living in East Germany.

Thousands of East Germans are pouring into West Germany, often with dramatic stories to tell. Many are fleeing by way of Hungary, in what has become an awkward position for the reform-minded, Warsaw Pact government in Budapest.

Permission

Overall, about 100,000 East Germans — both escapees and those with permission — are expected to reach West Germany this year. Many of them are taken to an overflowing camp in the city of Giessen, about an hour's drive northeast of Frankfurt.

The government-run camp itself has become one of the most visible symbols in the recent exodus.

Like many other East Germans in recent weeks, Joerg and Birgit chose to travel to Hungary and try an escape to the West through Hungary's newly porous border with Austria. East German citizens need no special permission to travel to Hungary.

More than 1,500 East Germans are believed to have escaped through Hungary since that Soviet Bloc nation began removing border barriers earlier this year.

"We tried it a first time last week but Hungarian border guards caught us. They were nice. They just asked us to promise never to do it again," said Joerg.

About 10 kilometres (6 miles) was all that separated them from Austria when a farmer dropped them off near the border on Sunday, Aug. 13.

Joerg said that because they didn't know the weakest parts of the border controls, he and his wife crawled through cornfields, brush and woods searching for the right time and location to make their move.

"We knew some border fences had been removed, but we didn't know where. There are a lot of escapees who get help and have access to information," he said.

According to Joerg, he and his wife stayed hidden in cornfields on the first night and in woods on the second.

"We lay low during daylight, carefully observing everything. Then at night we would go inch by inch very carefully, to make sure we weren't noticed," he said. "There were millions of mosquitoes, it was really hot, and we had nothing to drink," Joerg added.

Tired, hungry and thirsty, the couple climbed the border fence on Tuesday. They stopped at a brook for water after reaching Austrian territory near Deutschkreutz, about 150 kilometres (93 miles) southeast of Vienna.

Climbing

Displaying cuts on her forearm, 22-year-old Birgit said: "I got these climbing over the barbed wire border fence."

Eventually, West German authorities arranged for the pair to travel to Vienna and then to the Giessen camp, where they will be fed and housed until they can restart their lives on their own.

As many as 500 East Germans arrive at Giessen on a single day, prompting West Germany yesterday to announce they were opening another camp to relieve the strains.

East Germans were lined up yesterday outside the complex's homely stucco buildings, waiting to fill out registration documents or for lunch in the cafeteria.

Others were in their temporary lodgings, peering out the windows and talking with other refugees below.

Refugees who have already found lodgings with relatives leave the Giessen camp within three or four days. For others, it can take a week or more.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's chief of staff met with a top East German official late yesterday, but emerged with little hope of resolving the refugee crisis that has closed two of Bonn's embassies.

First 'free' PM chosen

Solidarity-led coalition to rule Poland

WARSAW, Aug. 19. (Agencies): President Wojciech Jaruzelski today nominated Solidarity journalist Tadeusz Mazowiecki for prime minister, the PAP news service announced.

If approved by the Sejm, one chamber of Poland's national legislature, Mazowiecki would be the country's first non-communist government leader in 43 years. He would head a Solidarity-led coalition government.

The Sejm will receive the nomination on Monday, but it was not known when a vote might be held. Approval appeared certain because

Solidarity and its coalition partners, two minor parties, control 264 seats in the 460-member chamber.

The statement released by PAP said the President decided a proposed Solidarity-led coalition government was necessary to solve Poland's crippling economic problems and widespread public discontent.

"In the present situation, the President sees a need to create a government enjoying the necessary support of parliamentary floor groups and to build it on foundations of broad agreement between Poland's political and social forces," the statement said.

It represented a dramatic reversal for Mazowiecki and the Solidarity Independent Trade Union. In 1981, Jaruzelski imposed martial law to crush the union. Mazowiecki was jailed for a year in the crackdown.

Now he has been tapped to take over a government facing high inflation, a \$39-billion foreign debt and food shortages.

"I am terrified," Mazowiecki said on Polish state television. "I think... we can do a lot, that we can release the forces in ourselves. I think that it will not be easy, but it is possible."

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa called Jaruzelski's action "an incredible success for our struggle."

"... But let us now see it in practice," he said in a telephone interview from his Gdansk home with the Associated Press. "This is just the beginning."

He also said he would halt political activities and devote himself to Solidarity, which he founded in 1980.

"I should now go for political retirement," Walesa said. "My struggle, our struggle, has accomplished whatever was possible. In the direction of politics, I have reached top. I do not plan any further political career."

The coalition government would be the first in the Soviet bloc not led by communists since Soviet dictator Josef Stalin consolidated communist control in Eastern Europe in the late 1940s.

Once approved, Mazowiecki would have several weeks to form his cabinet, which will include members of Solidarity, communists and non-communists.

Solidarity has said it will let the Communist Party retain control of the defence and interior ministries, which oversee the army and police. In addition, local governments and the court system will remain controlled by party members.

Solidarity also has promised the change would not endanger Poland's participation in the Warsaw Pact military alliance.

The Soviet Union, while expressing concern earlier this week, has said it considers the formation of a government an internal Polish affair.

Solidarity, whose success in June parliament elections led to the possible change, immediately promised Mazowiecki its "full support."

"This should produce a major breakthrough in Polish public life by doing away with the present policy of 'nomenklatura', the system in which only party members are appointed to most senior jobs in government and the economy," Solidarity said in a statement.

Saturday's announcement came as the Communist Party central committee met in Warsaw and Walesa met union members in Gdansk.

Wlodzimierz Lotzinski, a presidential spokesman said the central committee was divided but would probably support the new government.

Pettersson to be retried

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Aug. 19. (AP): An appeals court said yesterday it will retry the case next month of Christer Pettersson, who was convicted last month for the 1986 murder of Prime Minister Olof Palme.

The trial was due to begin Sept. 12 and scheduled to continue four weeks, said the Svea court of appeals through the national news agency.

Pettersson, a 42-year-old Swede with a criminal record, denied shooting Palme and appealed the judgement. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

The prosecution also appealed, seeking a conviction on a charge of attempted murder against Palme's widow Lisbeth, who was slightly wounded in the attack. Pettersson had been convicted of the lesser charge of endangering Mrs. Palme's life.

Palme, a four-term prime minister, was shot Feb. 28, 1986 while walking home from a movie.

French mayor rebuked over mosque destruction

PARIS, Aug. 19. (Reuters): French Interior Minister Pierre Joxe, moving to avert a threatened ethnic dispute, yesterday condemned the destruction of a mosque in a small southeastern town and formally reprimanded its mayor.

A bulldozer razed a makeshift mosque in Chateaufort, near Grenoble, during morning prayers earlier this week, outraging local Muslims and sparking several arson attacks.

Right-wing Mayor Gerard Dezempt said

the demolition was accidental, adding the bulldozers were meant to destroy another wing of the condemned building where the mosque was housed.

But Joxe rejected the mayor's explanation. "Following the destruction, made to look accidental, of a Muslim shrine, I have asked the department prefect to inform Chateaufort's mayor of the government's condemnation and my personal indignation," he said in a statement.

"Such acts of violence and intolerance

damage our country and the peace of the nation. They must be forbidden in the future and made amends for as soon as possible," he added.

Joxe said such acts were particularly unacceptable during France's bicentenary celebrations of the declaration of human rights.

The strongly-worded communique was a sign of how anxious the socialist government is to prevent racial tensions build up among France's three million Muslims, most of them North African immigrants.

Uprising claims two more lives

Palestinian-American killed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 19. (Agencies): A 15-year-old Palestinian-American was found shot dead in the occupied West Bank three days after he was reported missing and his family blamed the army for the death.

A spokesman for the military said the army could not confirm the killing, because nobody was available for examination. But he said the boy had not been held by the military and the army "had no connection with the shooting that his family claims."

A spokesman for the US consulate identified the boy as Amjad Husain Jibreel, and said he was born in Colorado.

In Bethlehem, an 18-year-old Palestinian was shot dead in a clash with troops, Arab hospital officials said. The deaths raised to 601, the number of Palestinians killed since the Arab uprising against Israeli occupation began in December 1989. Forty Israelis have also died.

Consulate spokesman Gil Sherman said Jibreel's family reported him missing on Thursday after he failed to return from a Wednesday prayer service at a mosque in the town of Al Bireh.

Sherman said the consulate has been making inquiries into his death, but has received no substantial information.

Negotiations not moving: Arafat

BAGHDAD, Aug. 19. (Reuters): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat said today his group's dialogue with the United States was going nowhere because of US support for elections in the occupied territories as proposed by Israel.

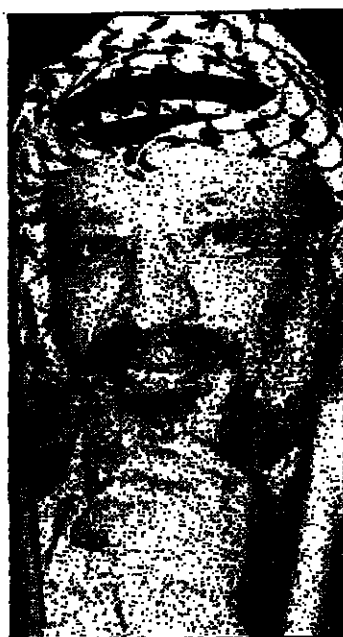
"The dialogue, unfortunately, is still crawling in its place," Arafat told a news conference in the Iraqi capital.

"Unfortunately, the American party in the negotiations is clearly allied to (Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir's plan, forgetting our peace initiative," he said.

Arafat has rejected Shamir's proposal to let 1.7 million Palestinians of the occupied territories elect representatives to negotiations on some form of self-rule.

He says the Palestine Liberation Organisation wants a final settlement based on ending the Israeli occupation, self-determination, national independence and a just settlement of the refugee problem.

Salah Khalaf, one of Arafat's closest colleagues, said yesterday talks between the PLO and Washington in Tunis earlier this week were a step backwards in the dialogue which started last



Arafat crawling

December after Arafat renounced terrorism.

Arafat said today the 20-month-old uprising against Israeli rule of the West Bank and Gaza Strip would continue until the end of the Israeli occupation.

He said the army told the family "they had no information about him until yesterday" afternoon, he said. "Now they are telling us they have never heard of him."

A spokesman for the military administration said the boy had not been detained by troops and there was no record of him held in any Israeli jail.

News of Jibreel's death triggered clashes with Israeli troops and a spontaneous general strike in Ramallah. The area was sealed off by troops. There were no reported injuries.

Amjed Jibreel moved from Colorado to his mother's home town of Al Bireh in 1983. Most of the family returned with him to the West Bank, but his father, Wathak, lives in Miami, where he owns a grocery store.

Arab reports said the second casualty was shot and killed when Israeli security agents dressed like tourists opened fire on a group of Arab stone-throwers.

The reports said the youth began stoning an army patrol near Bethlehem's Manger Square when men in civilian clothes with cameras around their necks pulled out guns and shot at the youth.

Radi Maimoun Salah, 18, was fatally wounded in the chest and four other Arabs were also shot. Also in the West Bank, youth abducted Bassem Wali, 22, of Qalqilya, Arab reports said. The reports said Wali is the third Palestinian abducted by masked youth this week. The kidnappings came amid a sharp increase in attacks by Palestinians on fellow Arabs accused of co-operating with Israeli authorities.

In Kufri Lager near the West Bank city of Nablus, Palestinian nationalists shot dead Mukhtar (village leader) Abd Al Rahim Awad, 62, on suspicion of collaborating with Israeli authorities. Arab sources said. The army confirmed a body was found in the village.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, stone-throwing youths and Israeli troops clashed in Gaza city for several hours, one day after Israel introduced tough restrictions on Arab travel from Gaza to Israel.

Turks' rights demanded

Sofia jails 3

VIENNA, Aug. 19. (Reuters): Bulgaria has imprisoned three people who demanded human rights for the country's ethnic Turkish minority on charges that they incited unrest and spread lies against the state, Bulgarian emigre sources said today.

Stefan Tabakov, leader of the Vienna-based Social Democratic Party of Bulgaria in exile, said ethnic Turks Shukre Sherifov and Ali Topalov and ethnic Romanians Marlene Liviu appeared at a closed trial in the Black Sea town of Varna on Thursday.

Sherifov was sentenced to

10 months imprisonment and Topalov and Liviu to six months, he said.

In May the three wrote a letter, which was broadcast on foreign radio stations, urging Bulgarian authorities to restore the cultural and religious rights of ethnic Turks.

More than a quarter of a million ethnic Turks have fled the country since May because of Bulgaria's campaign to assimilate them. Bulgaria denies charges of persecution, saying they are really Bulgarian Muslims forced to adopt Turkish names during the Ottoman Empire.

News of Jibreel's death triggered clashes with Israeli troops and a spontaneous general strike in Ramallah. The area was sealed off by troops. There were no reported injuries.

Amjed Jibreel moved from Colorado to his mother's home town of Al Bireh in 1983. Most of the family returned with him to the West Bank, but his father, Wathak, lives in Miami, where he owns a grocery store.

Arab reports said the second casualty was shot and killed when Israeli security agents dressed like tourists opened fire on a group of Arab stone-throwers.

The reports said the youth began stoning an army patrol near Bethlehem's Manger Square when men in civilian clothes with cameras around their necks pulled out guns and shot at the youth.

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Argentine representative ambassador Lucio Garcia del Solar (left) and UK Ambassador to the UN Sir Crispin Tickell eye each other at a press conference in New York on Friday where they announced that the two nations would hold talks in October in Madrid, towards normalising their diplomatic relations.

Both sides also said on Friday they were optimistic that relations between the two nations would be normalised following the meeting in Madrid Oct 17-18.

A joint statement, issued after three days of talks in New York, said the Madrid discussions would be held without prejudice to sovereignty over the islands claimed by both Argentina and Britain.

The Falklands, 325 miles (523 kilometres) off Argentina's southern coast, are a British colony.

UK, Argentina agree on talks

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'We are the government'

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa (right) and the union's parliamentary leader Bronislaw Geremek (left) prior to a meeting of Solidarity leadership to discuss creation of a government led by non-communists (Reuters wirephoto)

Azeris rally in Baku

Demand for local autonomy

MOSCOW, Aug. 19. (Reuters): Hundreds of thousands of people, some holding banners proclaiming "Down with Russian dictatorship," today packed the central square of Baku, capital of the Azerbaijan republic, to protest against the republic's status.

The gathering was called by the unofficial Azerbaijani Popular Front to back its demands for greater local autonomy and continued control of the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Popular Front spokesman Nazim Ragimov told Reuters by telephone from Baku that at least 600,000 people were taking part in the protest, which was due to last until 1 am (2000 GMT). No

independent crowd estimate was available.

Ragimov said the gathering was much larger than a similar protest in Baku's Lenin Square on Monday at the end of a one-day protest strike. An estimated 150,000 people took part in that demonstration.

He said Azerbaijani Communist Party chief Abdul Vezirov had lost the trust of the people. "He is a tsar without an empire," Ragimov said.

Ragimov said talks between the Popular Front and the Azerbaijani leadership had achieved nothing. "They are not prepared to agree to any one of our demands."

The Popular Front has threatened to call a general strike across the republic unless the authorities support their calls for greater political and economic autonomy and the recall of parliamentary deputies they say are unrepresentative.

They are also demanding an end to Moscow's direct control over Nagorno-Karabakh, imposed last year after clashes between Azerbaijanis and Armenians, and the end to a curfew and military presence in Baku and other towns.

Another Popular Front member said crowds at today's demonstration were waving banners proclaiming "Down with Russian dictatorship" and "Establish political sovereignty in Azerbaijan."



British ferry hits rocks

CHERBOURG, France, Aug. 19. (UPI): A British Sealink cross-channel ferry sailing off the French coast hit a patch of rocks that tore a 15 metre hole in its hull today but the vessel was able to reach land and disembark everyone aboard without casualties, company officials said.

The incident happened to the ferry "Earl Granville" at 6 am (0400 GMT) at the approach to Cherbourg Docks a short time after it left for Britain. Crew members rapidly steered the stricken ship to the coast. The 712 passengers and 162 cars aboard quickly disembarked.

Near miss reported

LONDON, Aug. 19. (KUNA): An air traffic controller became distracted and failed to stop two planes with 150 passengers on board continuing on collision course over Kent, southern England, it was reported today.

Fortunately, an air traffic control chief intervened and both pilots turned sharply left and disaster was avoided, said a report by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The report blamed a sector controller at the West Drayton Air Traffic Control Centre in West London for the near miss between the British Airways BAC 1-11 and the DCO Yugoslav charter company, Adria Airlines last September.

Air disaster probe urged

LONDON, Aug. 19. (KUNA): Relatives of American victims of the Lockerbie air disaster arrived in Britain today, and called for a top-level British government investigation into the tragedy that killed 270 people.

A six-strong delegation flew into London's Heathrow Airport from New York ready to meet UK Transport Minister Michael Portland and discuss airport security with police and the British Airports Authority.

Plane crash test complete

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico, Aug. 19. (AP): An F-4 Phantom jet smashed into a concrete barrier at 480 miles per hour (770 kilometres per hour) in a test to learn how to protect a nuclear reactor from a plane crash.

The surplus plane, strapped to rails and propelled by rockets, slammed into a million-pound (450,000 kilograms) barrier at Sandia National Laboratories on April 18, 1988. Details of the test were reported Thursday during the 10th International Conference on Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology at Anaheim, California.

Fire drives tourists away

ATHENS, Greece, Aug. 19. (AP): Greek and foreign tourists have been evacuated from the popular northern Aegean resort island of Thassos because of a wildfire raging on the island's thickly wooded mountainsides, officials said yesterday.

"Ferryboats have been plying back and forth between here and Thassos, and just about all visitors have left the island," said Harbour Authority officer Christos Panagis in the mainland city of Kavala, which lies an hour and a half by boat from the island.



Released on bail

Freelance photographer Nick Vogel, 22, was released from Crumlin Road jail on a £1,000 bail. He was held by the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) and charged with possession of a rifle magazine under suspicious circumstances. (Reuters wirephoto)

Czech activist hospitalised

VIENNA, Austria, Aug. 19. (AP): A jailed spokesman for the Czechoslovak human rights group Charter 77 has been transferred from his cell to a civilian hospital, Czechoslovak activist Dana Nemcova said in Prague yesterday.

Stanislav Davaty, who with prominent playwright Vaclav Havel and two other activists sponsored the "Severed Sentences" petition calling for democratic reforms, was taken Wednesday to the intensive care unit of a hospital in Gottwaldov, 300 kilometres (125 miles) east of Prague. He has been on hunger strike in prison since his arrest Aug. 7, Ms. Nemcova said.

It was not immediately clear if Davaty had been released from prison or only hospitalised until he can return to prison.

Trust fund planned

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 19. (KUNA): UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar intends to create a trust fund based on voluntary contributions to assist states in the settlement of disputes through the International Court of Justice (ICJ), his spokesman said in a statement distributed here last night.

The purpose of the fund, he explained, will be to provide financial assistance to states for expenses incurred in connection with a dispute submitted to the International Court of Justice or the execution of a judgement of the court resulting from such special agreement.

UN chief to fix timeframe for Gulf talks

TEHRAN, Aug 19, (Agencies): Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said here today that a timeframe for the sixth round of peace talks between Iran and Iraq is to be fixed by the UN Secretary-General Peres de Cuellar with a mutual agreement of the two concerned parties, Radio Tehran reported.

The Iranian foreign minister expressed belief that the UN chief will exert his utmost in this respect during the upcoming non-aligned conference, due to convene in Belgrade next Sept 4-7, it added.

Velayati spoke of possible visits to Iran and Iraq by De Cuellar's special representative Jan Eliasson before convocation of the UN ordinary session next month.

He did not rule out the possibility of experts' preliminary meeting with De Cuellar in preparation for the UN chief's meeting with representatives of the Iran and Iraq.

Jan Eliasson said that resumption of

peace talks is expected during the next non-aligned summit, indicating that De Cuellar will be in Yugoslavia during the conference and will hold talks with the representatives of the two concerned parties.

On the first anniversary of the Iran-Iraq ceasefire, the UN secretary-general has called on the two nations to break their impasse in talks, release prisoners and withdraw to international borders.

"As we observe the anniversary of

the ceasefire, I call on the leaders of Iran and Iraq to join me in a renewed effort to complete this task (of implementing a UN peace plan), as the way to achieve an overall political settlement," said Secretary-General De Cuellar in a statement.

He called for good neighbourly relations, security and stability in the region and "peace which only can be lasting if it is based on the principle of no victor, no vanquished."

On Aug 20, 1988, a UN-mediated

cease-fire went into effect between Iran and Iraq, ending eight years of hostilities.

Although the ceasefire is holding, the talks are deadlocked after several sessions. The talks are intended to implement a mandatory resolution of the Security Council, requiring immediate withdrawal to international boundaries and a return and repatriation of POWs.

The UN peace plan has not been implemented and Iraq has injected new

elements, including the clearing of the Shatt Al Arab waterway, a primary border between the two warring nations.

The secretary-general, in his statement, said the UN peace plan, Security Council Resolution 598 "cannot be renegotiated. It represents a peace plan that must be implemented."

Because of the ceasefire, he said, "countless lives have been spared" and tension has been reduced.

Iran hangs

MANAMA, Aug 19, (UPI): Iran today hanged 79 convicted drug smugglers, including two women, in Tehran and other provincial capitals as part of its 8-month-long crackdown on narcotics abuse, Iran's official IRNA news agency reported.

IRNA quoted Islamic revolutionary courts as finding the drug smugglers guilty of involvement in the purchase, sale and distribution of large quantities of opium and heroin, forming armed gangs, and engaging in armed clashes with security forces.

Iranian executioners have hanged some 800 people, including several foreigners, since the beginning of the year on what the authorities have deemed were narcotics-related charges.

Syrian visit

TUNIS, Aug 19, (Reuters): Syrian Vice-President Abdel Halim Khaddam arrived in Libya today on a previously unannounced visit, the Libyan News Agency JANA said.

The agency, monitored in Tunis, said Libya's number two leader Abdel Salam Jalloud met Khaddam at Tripoli airport. It gave no further details.

Diplomats in the Syrian capital said Lebanese developments were expected to top Khaddam's talks with Libyan leaders.

JANA said earlier several leading Palestinian radicals and pro-Syrian Lebanese activists had arrived in Tripoli last night for talks.

Flood kills 2

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Aug 19, (AP): Floods in Iran's west Azerbaijan province killed two people and caused heavy damage to livestock, homes, and electric power plants, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said that the floods Thursday and yesterday were caused by heavy rainfall.

The two deaths occurred in the town of Khoy, IRNA said, and among the hardest hit villages were Haris, Heidarabad, Teil, Almas Duzai and Sheikh Marjan.

King pardons

RABAT, Aug 19, (Reuters): King Hassan of Morocco has granted pardons to 347 prisoners to mark the 36th anniversary of the departure into exile of his father King Mohammed V, the Justice Ministry said today.

The anniversary known as the revolution of the King and People falls tomorrow and commemorates the expulsion of the king to Madagascar by the French government.

Military reduced

WASHINGTON, Aug 19, (AP): The United States is reducing its military training and presence in Somalia to protest human rights abuses by security forces in the strategically placed East African nation, US officials said yesterday.

The decision comes as the administration of President George Bush seeks to renegotiate an agreement for use of the Red Sea port of Berbera by US Navy vessels moving to and from the Indian Ocean.

The pact, in for renegotiation next year, but the administration decided to reduce military assistance despite concerns that the cuts could affect Somalia's willingness to allow US use of the port, officials said.

Royal court chief

AMMAN, Aug 19, (AP): King Hussein named former Prime Minister Mudar Badran as his chief palace aide today to replace an official who resigned in order to run for election to Parliament.

The official Jordan news agency, Petra, said Badran 55, would take up his new post as chief of the royal court tomorrow.

The royal court chief is responsible for palace operations and generally serves as a key political adviser to the king. The post has often been a stepping stone to or from the prime minister's office.

White House hopes

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, Aug 19, (Reuters): Although former president Jimmy Carter's bid to end Iranian aid has not yet been announced, the White House hopes the effort succeeds, a spokesman said yesterday.

Carter, whose skills as a mediator produced the historic Camp David peace accords between Egypt and Israel in 1978, will convene talks next month in Atlanta, Georgia, between the Ethiopian government and rebels waging a 28-year-old war for independence in the northern province of Entota.

Boycott called

BELGRADE, Aug 19, (Reuters): Religious leaders of Yugoslavia's four million Muslims are reported to have called for a boycott of the local publishers of British author Salman Rushdie's book *The Satanic Verses*.

The Belgrade newspaper Borska said today that Muslim leaders urged the boycott of all editions by the publishing house Prosveta and Kultura of Skopje.

The company announced it would publish the book in Serbo-Croatian and Macedonian by the end of the year.

Eito admires

TOKYO, Aug 19, (KUNA): The late Japanese Communist Party leader Risto Eito has expressed his admiration of the Palestine Liberation Movement and its just struggle, it was stated here today.

According to Japanese sources Eito had exchanged letters with the Japanese Red Army in Lebanon saying in his letter, "I commend the Palestine liberation movement and the Palestinian people's struggle."

The letter also continued "I reached the age of 75 and my wish is to see the Palestinian people victorious. I am sending my revolutionary greetings to you and to the Palestinian comrades."

Eito, who died after long ailment, spent 29 years in China from where he returned in 1980.

Rockets hit Kabul, 1-Day marked

KABUL, Aug 19, (AP): At least a dozen rockets hit Kabul today as the Afghan government marks the 70th anniversary of independence from Britain without pomp or ceremony.

Jamburiyat Hospital reported 18 people injured. Two women were hurt in separate strikes, one on the ground as a rocket grazed the roof of an unoccupied cinema and another at a home near the British High Commission.

Others fell throughout the city, including the airport.

Today is normally the first day of the working week in Afghanistan, with bazaars bustling and thousands of Kabulis on the streets.

But streets were almost empty because of the independence holiday and rumours that US-backed rebels fighting to overthrow the Soviet-backed government were planning massive rocket attacks.

Kabul has been hit by almost daily rocketing since late June. The government blames the rebels, called mujahideen, or Islamic holy warriors. There was no claim of responsibility for today's attack.

One rocket today went through the roof of the home of a family in Karté Parwan just blocks from the British High Commission, which was closed before the Feb 15 withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

It went through two floors, landing in the living room and showering shrapnel on a woman who was hurt in the back and thigh.

Young boys and girls wailed hysterically and the brother of the injured woman said the United States was responsible for the deaths of innocent Afghans.

United Nations sources say 335 people were killed and over 900 injured in rocket attacks and a car bombing between June 25 and Aug 12. Virtually all were civilians.

The Afghan government on Thursday accused the United States of supplying the rebels with new, more deadly rockets which explode in mid-air, showering warheads over a wide area.

US officials have promised new arms shipments to the mujahideen but have not revealed the types of weapons. Published reports say these include cluster bombs and Spanish 120 mm mortar to crater airport runways.

The government's commemoration of King Amanullah's Treaty with Britain in 1919 giving Afghanistan its independence was almost nonexistent. Red, black and green Afghan flags hung limply on flagpoles in the afternoon heat and tanks were positioned at major intersections for the first time in more than a month.

There was no parade or official ceremony to mark the day, despite reports that President Najib would appear at an official function.

Afghanistan gained its independence at the end of the third Anglo-Afghan war, at a time when the rugged landlocked country was a buffer between the two superpowers of the day, Czarist Russia and Victorian England on the subcontinent. Najib has compared the struggle in the current 11-year Afghan war with the fight by Amanullah to liberate the country.

Silent

The United States refused yesterday to either confirm or deny reports that it had supplied Afghan rebels with a new type of rocket that explodes in mid-air, scattering small bombs over a wide area.

"I can't answer that question for you. We never go into the details of our assistance," State Department deputy spokesman Richard Boucher told reporters.

He reiterated that "we are very firmly committed to supporting" the mujahideen rebels.

An Army spokesman said the United States has had so-called cluster rockets in its arsenal since 1967, but could not say whether any of these had been sent to the Afghan rebels.

The rockets are known officially as "extended range lethal cargo carrier projectiles" and are fired from howitzers.

Rafsanjani picks cabinet members

Hardline rivals dropped

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Aug 19, (Agencies): President Hashemi Rafsanjani introduced his cabinet to the parliament today, dropping hardline opponents including the former interior minister that more than half the parliamentary deputies petitioned him to keep, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported.

Instead of Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, Rafsanjani selected Abdullah Nouri, a leading figure in the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps, as interior minister.

The exclusion of Mohtashemi is seen as a further signal of Rafsanjani to open up Iran to the outside world. IRNA said that 12 of the proposed appointments in the 22-member cabinet were new faces.

Press reports indicated the list could spark a political brawl in the Majlis, or parliament.

IRNA said that 138 deputies signed a letter, read in the Majlis today, asking Rafsanjani to keep Mohtashemi as interior minister.

The deputies acknowledged the competition between the two men, saying, "The presence of powerful personalities in the future cabinet is inevitable."

But it urged him to appoint Mohtashemi, noting the "sensitivity of the arrogant world" — the usual reference to the United States — to the issue.

Mohtashemi, a middle-ranking cleric was appointed interior minister in October 1985.

Gulf-based Western diplomats said a row broke out between Mohtashemi and Rafsanjani, who was sworn in as president earlier this week, after the recent release of a video showing the purported hanging death of American hostage Lt Col. William Higgins.

Iranian sources said Mohtashemi — who served as Iran's ambassador to Damascus between 1980 and 1985, when he is reported to have helped set up and finance the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, in Lebanon — belongs to the radical camp in his country's leadership.

The sources said Mohtashemi has in the past encouraged the taking of Western hostages in Lebanon, and favours keeping them imprisoned indefinitely as a guarantee of non-intervention in Iran's internal affairs by the Western powers.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh and Minister of Islamic Guidance Mohammad Khatami will all keep their posts, said IRNA, monitored in Nicosia.

Rafsanjani had been expected to present his cabinet to get Majlis, tomorrow. The Majlis was scheduled to review and approve new procedures for approving ministers today, and they apparently finished the voting early enough for Rafsanjani to give them his list.

Each minister will have to be confirmed by the 270-seat body, which will start debate tomorrow, IRNA said.

The real extent of Rafsanjani's powers will be determined after voting takes place in parliament, sources said in a telephone interview from Paris.

A senior Arab government official told UPI earlier this week that the hostages could continue to hope they would eventually be freed while Rafsanjani held the reins of power in Iran.

Earlier today the government-supervised Tehran Times had reported that Rafsanjani would not include his hardline opponents in the cabinet.

Former Prime Minister Hussein Musavi and Minister of Intelligence Mohammad Reza Shahr, two other major figures in the faction opposed to Rafsanjani, were not included. Musavi's post of prime minister was scrapped under constitutional changes that concentrate executive power in the presidency.

Rafsanjani acknowledged during his inauguration speech Thursday that a fight was brewing over his appointments, with some ministers refusing to serve in his government.

IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, did not say whether Rafsanjani was dumping Mohtashemi and his other opponents or whether they had declined to work with him.

Rafsanjani's hardline rivals support a centralised economy and believe confronting the West serves to feed the Islamic fervor.

Pro-Iranian groups in Lebanon said they killed one American hostage in retaliation and threatened to kill another.

In Baghdad, Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat told a news conference the PLO played a part in lifting the threat against the

Iran cabinet named

NICOSIA, Aug 19, (AP): The following is the list of ministers Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani presented to Parliament today for its approval. Debate in the Majlis, or Parliament, is expected to start tomorrow.

Agriculture	Issa Kalantari
Commerce	Abdol Hussein Vahaji (new)
Construction Jihad	Gholamreza Forouzesh
Defence and Armed Forces Logistics	Akbar Torkan (new)
Economics and Finance	Mohsen Nourbakhsh (new)
Education	Mohammad Ali Najafi
Energy	Sizhan Namdar Zangeneh
Foreign Affairs	Ali Akbar Velayati
Health	Iraj Fazel (new)
Heavy Industries	Mohammad Hadi Nezhad Huseini (new)
Higher Education	Mostafa Mo'in (new)
Housing and Urban Development	Sarajeddin Kazerouni
Industries	Mohammad Reza Nematzadeh (new)
Intelligence	Ali Fallahian (new)
Interior	Abdullah Nouri (new)
Islamic Guidance	Mohammad Khatami
Justice	Esmail Shoushtari (new)
Labour and Social Affairs	Hussein Kamali (new)
Mines and Metals	Mohammad Hussein Mahlouji (new)
Oil	Gholamreza Aqazadeh
Post, Telegraph and Telephones	Mohammad Gharazi
Road and Transport	Mohammad Saeedi Kya

Meeting with Assad

Yaqub Khan in hostage talks

DAMASCUS, Aug 19, (Reuters): Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub, mediating in efforts to free Western hostages in Lebanon, had talks today with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad.

Yaqub Khan, who arrived today from a visit to Iran where he met President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, declined to answer reporters' questions on the meeting with Assad.

The Pakistani foreign minister, whose country has good relations with Iran, Syria and the United States, also met his Syrian counterpart Farouq Al Shara for talks which diplomats said focused on the hostages.

Syria is the main power broker in Lebanon, where groups loyal to Iran are believed to hold most of the 17 missing Westerners, eight of them Americans.

In Tehran, Rafsanjani told Yaqub Khan on Thursday that Iran would help free the hostages only if the US acted to end a decade of hostility.

US Senator David Durenberger also met Shara today and told reporters afterwards: "We talked about the general situation in Lebanon and some of the problems there, but we did not talk on specifics."

Diplomats said Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati discussed the hostage issue, with leaders of the Lebanese group Hezbollah at a meeting in the Iranian embassy in Damascus on Wednesday.

The group, despite its denials, is thought to hold at least some of the hostages.

Renewed efforts to release the captives have been made since the end of July when Israel kidnapped a Hezbollah leader in southern Lebanon as a bargaining chip for the release of three Israeli soldiers.

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Yaqub Khan: mediation second American, Joseph Cicippio.

He gave no details, but said it was not the first time the PLO had helped in such situations.

I have said many times that if the United States expects us to help in the Lebanese issue, it should show in practice that it has stopped its hostile stand against us," the Iranian news agency IRNA quoted Rafsanjani as saying.

US President George Bush has sent indirect messages to Tehran on the hostage crisis.

Velayati said today that the aim of the visit to his country by Yaqub Khan was to discuss latest developments in the region and situation in Afghanistan.

Quoted by Radio Tehran, Velayati said the Afghan issue is very sensitive and important to Pakistan and Iran as the two have sheltered more than five million Afghan refugees since the start of the Afghan problem.

He hoped that Iran and Pakistan would be able to bring an end to such a problem and restore stability back to that Muslim country.



A small girl who escaped the carnage of Beirut with her family rests inside a tent erected at the bank of Awall river, near Sidon. (Reuters wirephoto)

Paris flexes muscles

Lebanon's man in UN

An envoy for all

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 19, (Reuters): Lebanon's UN envoy, Ambassador Chawki Choucri, finds himself in the strange position of relaying messages to the world body from rival leaders of his civil war-shattered country.

"I represent Lebanon, not any particular group or faction," he said in a recent interview.

"When they send me a message (to pass on to the United Nations), I convey it," he said. "Most of these messages are not contradictory."

He said he received one this week from Army Commander Major-General Michel Aoun, who heads a Lebanese Christian administration, accepting the ceasefire urged by the Security Council at a midnight meeting last Tuesday.

About the same time he forwarded a letter to the Security Council from Selim Al Hoss, Prime Minister of a rival Muslim government, saying a ceasefire was "the most pressing desideratum (need) at the present time."

Often there is no request for the letters to be circulated as official UN documents and they are not made public.

On Thursday he passed on to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar another communication from Aoun detailing alleged ceasefire violations by Syrian forces.

There can be no other solution to the Lebanese crisis but through forming an Arab peacekeeping force, which will impose a pan-Arab resolution for ceasefire and peace," Arafat told a news conference in the Iraqi capital.

He was speaking after talks on Lebanon on Friday night with King Hussein of Jordan and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

In Paris, France offered to organise a Lebanese peace conference between the various parties to the conflict similar to the conference on Cambodia under way since last month.

The 27,000-ton Foch, one of France's two aircraft carriers, left the southern port of Toulon this evening accompanied by the frigate Cassard. About 40 aircraft including Super Etendard warplanes and Alouette helicopter gunships were to take up position on the carrier at sea, Navy sources said.

On Thursday Prime Minister Michel Rocard's government said it was sending the Foch to Levantine waters to reinforce the French presence in the area and "to give any assistance that is asked for," as well as protecting the French community in Lebanon.

There has been mounting speculation in Beirut that the French Navy might try and break a Syrian blockade of Lebanese Christian ports. On Friday, however, French Ambassador to Lebanon Rene Ala insisted French forces would not undertake any military action.

Also sailing today for the Mediterranean, from the Atlantic port of Brest, was the landing ship Orage, armed with two 120 mm (4-inch) guns and 30 mm mortars and equipped with helicopters and a modern hospital facility.

It was loaded with food, blankets, medical supplies and 1,000 folding beds, indicating it was being prepared for a large-scale humanitarian mission.

On Friday the French Foreign Ministry called for an urgent meeting of the European Economic Community countries at political director level to discuss helping Lebanon. The meeting is expected to be held in Paris on Monday as France currently holds the rotating presidency of the common market.

France said it was increasing its naval presence off Lebanon to bolster a series of diplomatic initiatives it has taken to try to end fighting in the country it once ruled.

The flotilla would also evacuate if necessary the French community in Beirut, where 750 people have died in five months of fierce fighting between Syrian troops and the Christian forces.

Meanwhile, Christian troops and Syrian-backed Muslim militia allies fought sporadic artillery battles and Beirut newspaper warned Syria and Iran are forming a 15,000-strong militia Army to overrun Christian defenses.

Another group of 104 inmates in the same prison gave up the action during the week.

The inmates began the fast at Eskişehir prison June 28 to protest restrictions imposed after prison authorities discovered two incomplete escape tunnels. They were transferred to the western city of Aydin on Aug 2 so the damage caused by the tunnels could be repaired.

Two of the prisoners died on the day of the transfer. Officials said the cause was dehydration, but newspapers and other inmates have contended the men were beaten to death.

Yazicioglu said eight prisoners were taken to hospital today, bringing the number of inmates that remained hospitalised to 63.

Garaing's statement would not affect the peace talks and underlining the government's resolve not to "pursue a course of action and reaction."

However, after seizing power he scrapped a tentative peace accord signed in November by the rebels and one of Sudan's major political parties that called for the freeing of Sudan's Islamic penal code and the abrogation of defense pacts with Libya, a goal that presumably would be an anathema to the southern rebels.

Sudanese delegation and rebels arrive in Addis Ababa for peace talks

NAIROBI, Aug 19, (AP): A high-level delegation from Sudan's new military government arrived in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, today to begin peace talks with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army, said a rebel spokesman.

The talks will be the first between the rebels and Sudan's new government of Lt. Gen. Omar Hassan Al Bashir, who seized power in a June 30 coup, and were proposed by the new military regime, said SPLA spokesman Justin Arop.

"Khartoum asked for the meeting," Arop said in a telephone interview from the rebels' headquarters in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa. "They say they are going to solve the problem of Sudan. We are going to listen to them."

Arop said the Sudanese government delegation, led by Col. Mohamed Al Amin Khalifa, arrived this morning and that, while a venue had not been chosen, the talks were to begin that afternoon.

Lam Akol, a member of the SPLA's high command will lead the rebels' delegation, said Arop. Each of the negotiating teams will be 11-strong.

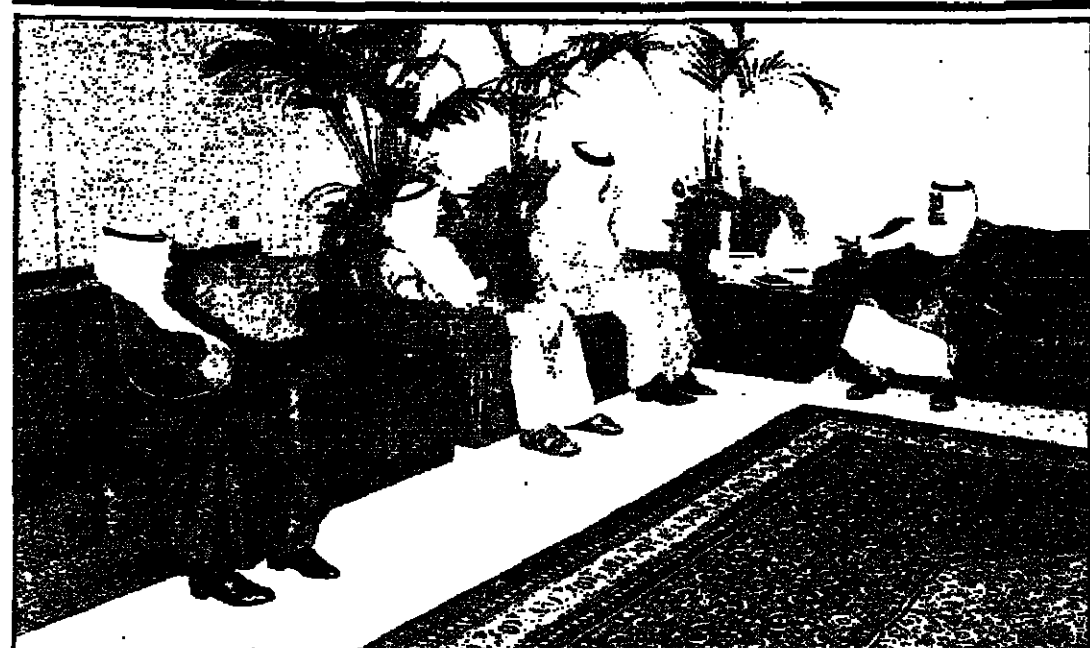
He said the agenda would determine the length of the

talks, but would not comment further.

The talks come five days after a speech by SPLA leader John Garang in which he threatened to use military force and a popular uprising to overthrow the new military government unless it stepped down and paved the way for general elections and democracy.

Garaing also demanded the release of political prisoners and the lifting of a ban on political parties Bashir imposed after the coup.

Following the speech, Khalifa was quoted as saying



Message delivered

HH the Amir of Kuwait yesterday received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal, who delivered a message from the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz. Prince Faisal, who came to Kuwait on a brief visit, yesterday ended his visit. He was seen off at the airport by Acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and a number of senior officials.

Australians in kingdom for sheep crisis talks

AN Australian delegation arrived in Saudi Arabia today to discuss Saudi rejection of allegedly diseased sheep, a move that alarmed Australia's huge livestock export industry.

The officials' arrival came a day after the Saudis were reported to have turned away a ship with 30,000 Australian sheep destined for the Gulf port of Dammam, the fourth such rejection in recent weeks.

Saudi officials refused entry earlier to three other ships carrying 227,000 live sheep, claiming they were afflicted with viruses known as blue tongue disease and sheep pox.

Australian officials say that neither bluetongue disease nor the sheep pox, which is deadly, exist in Australia. John Kerin, minister of primary industry and energy, has said the Saudi charges were not supported by clinical evidence.

Australia exports some seven

million sheep to the Middle East per year, with Saudi Arabia its biggest single customer, buying about 3.5 million animals worth \$81 million annually, officials said.

The sheep, shipped live for slaughter according to Muslim custom, are carried in huge livestock carriers, with open cages stacked as high as eight stories. They take two to three weeks to travel from Australia to the Gulf.

In Riyadh, an Australian embassy spokesman confirmed that the three-man delegation, led by Dr Gardner Murray, an executive director of the ministry, had arrived and was to begin talks tomorrow with Saudi Ministry of Agriculture officials.

The officials were expected to study laboratory findings from Saudi Arabia and from other Gulf countries that purchase Australian livestock, other sources in Riyadh said.

In addition to importing about

six million sheep yearly from Australia and other countries, Saudi Arabia maintains its own herd of six million sheep.

Australian sources here, asking not to be named, said they did not know what price differential existed between the local and imported meat, or whether this was possibly a factor in the Saudi's refusal to accept the Australian sheep.

According to Australian officials, the Saudi claimed the first two sheep shipments, one to Jeddah, and the other to Dammam, had bluetongue, a viral disease causing mouth ulcers. Some 192,000 animals were involved in those two shipments, they said.

The third ship loaded with 35,800 sheep was turned away ten days ago at Dammam, on grounds that its cargo was afflicted with sheep pox. A sheep ship from Somalia was also reportedly barred from unloading there.

Call to reduce funds for public sector wages

Ministries urged to cut surplus staff

ASSISTANT Undersecretary of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Mohammad Al Rushood has said the government can reduce the allocations for the first chapter of the state budget through the co-operation of the ministries and the CSC by making redundant "unproductive and surplus expatriate manpower."

The first chapter of the budget relates to wages of government employees, excluding employees in semi-government establishments. The total allocations for this chapter have almost doubled during the past 10 years. The allocations for employees' wages were KD499 million in the fiscal year 1980-81. The amount has risen to KD927 million in the current fiscal year 1989-90. There has been a steep annual rise in public sector wages except in the fiscal year 1985-86.

In the fiscal year 1984-85, allocations for salaries were KD724 million while these allocations dropped to KD723 million in the following year. Commenting on the slight drop, Rushood said that during that year, stringent rules were implemented against the appointment of non-Kuwaitis in the government ministries. Appointment of expatriates was strictly restricted to highly specialised experts and in cases of utmost urgency, the official said. He added: "If we had continued the appointment policy that prevailed before 1985-86, we would have needed about KD3 billion instead of only one billion as at present." Appointment to government posts in the ministries was a totally "chaotic process" and that some ministries were appointing expatriate without actual needs. Citing

examples, Rushood said that on one occasion a government ministry asked for permission from the CSC to appoint 600 expatriates. When the commission asked the ministry to reduce the number of 200 the ministry immediately accepted.

Rushood explained that the funds allocated for wages during the current fiscal year totalling KD927 million, are not spent on wages alone. From this amount, the ministries also pay gratuities, and bear the expense of bringing overseas experts. He also said that the wages of independent public establishments are not counted in the budget's first chapter. He stressed that if we add the salaries of the employees these establishments to the first chapter, the amount would far exceed the KD1 billion mark.

Another positive point, from

the official's point of view, is the increasing number of Kuwaiti employees in the ministries. By imposing restrictions on the appointment of expatriates, except on urgent needs only, the number of Kuwaitis in the ministries has gone up. At present Kuwaiti employees form 44.5 per cent of the total government staff, against only 43.3 per cent in the previous year. Few years ago, particularly before the fiscal year 1985-86 this percentage was much lower.

According to official statistics, the government ministries employ 144,286 staff, including 64,203 Kuwaitis and 80,083 expatriates. Last year, there were 143,253 employees in the ministries. Kuwaitis accounted for 61,983 while the expatriates were 81,270. These figures clearly show that the number of Kuwaiti employees rose by over 2,200 and

the number of expatriates dropped by about 1,200.

Rushood said that a first glance at the proportion of Kuwaitis and expatriates in the government staff, would give one the impression that the expatriates take a larger share in the government salaries. Although the expatriates form 55.5 per cent of the government staff and Kuwaitis form only 44.5 per cent, the share of the Kuwaitis in the government's first budget chapter, is much larger than that of their expatriate counterparts. Rushood attributed this to the fact that the Kuwaiti salary is usually much more than that of an expatriate. Besides, more allowances, and other perks are provided to the Kuwaiti employees. In addition, Kuwaitis get more increments and promotions than expatriates, he stressed.

Ministry to curb illegal visa trading

Stiff penalties for violators

By Nawaf Al Hameli

THE Interior Ministry is exerting every effort and utilising the expertise of its various agencies to eradicate the business of trading in visas. Col. Nasser Al Bannai, director of the Ahmadi Immigration Department said yesterday and added that stiff punishment will be meted out to those convicted of trading on their nationality by selling visas.

In an exclusive interview with Seyassah/Arab Times, the official stressed that the new amendments introduced to the residence law have greatly reduced the number of such incidents. The amendments have been introduced to protect the interests of both citizens and expatriates, the official said.

On bringing maids and domestics, Bannai said that the number of family members and their needs are carefully studied alongwith other preset conditions prior to issuing these permits — this applies to bringing

more than one maid.

All available data relating to expatriates and citizens is now stored in computers which helped to speed up the work process. Recently, a number of women have been recruited to operate the computers at the Ahmadi Immigration Department. The department also has allocated a huge hall for applicants and provided it with all necessities. The Immigration Department closely co-operates with the Civil Information Authority in ensuring that renewal of residences is only given on production of Civil IDs.

He disclosed that there are plans to establish a special section at the Immigration Department to sell the KD10 residence stamps in co-operation with the Ministry of Communication. Presently, only this ministry is authorised to sell these stamps. The department is also endeavouring to reduce procedures for various applications.

The official categorically denied any exemptions for payment of the residence and visit visa fines. Residency law violators are required to pay KD2 daily for their overstay — upto a maximum of KD600. Expatriates should note that the validity of the residency expires with the expiry of the passport and expatriates will be considered as violators of the residency law in this eventuality. Expatriates must quickly transfer their residence from the old passport to the new document, Bannai said.

The four Immigration Departments last month issued 9,376 new residences and cancelled 8,355. A statistical report issued yesterday by the Interior Ministry on the activities of the Immigration Departments during the month of July, said that the four departments also issued 7,488 work permits. The bulk of these went to domestics and maids with over 5,500 permits. They were followed by 1,246

work permits issued for labourers in the private sector. The departments also issued 595 dependent visas for expatriates to join their families.

In addition, the departments issued 144 work permits for employees in the government sector. The report added that the Immigration Department renewed during the same month 18,532 residences and issued 638 temporary residences. They also opened files for 933 new sponsors.

The report added that during July, 8,802 visit visas were issued. The largest number were 4,468 family visit visas, closely followed by the 4,215 business visas. The departments also issued 102 government visit visas and 17 for medical treatment. A total number of 601 permits to stay outside Kuwait for over the legal period of six months, were also issued during the month of July. The departments also made 3,981 sponsorship transfers for expatriates.



Wonder potato

A potato resembling a small baby with a fully grown head, ears and hands was picked up at the local vegetable market at Fahsheel Co-operative Society by a Science Club member Jassem Saleh Mohammed.

The club intends to preserve the potato in chemicals to protect it from decaying.

'Private' taxi cab drivers to face jail term

KUWAIT'S Interior Ministry yesterday warned drivers not to use their private cars to ferry passengers. A news release, issued by the public relations department, said that drivers caught ferrying passengers would be jailed for a month and fined KD50.

Described

The director of the General Traffic Department has ordered traffic policemen to suspend the driving licence of any motorist breaking the law; licences can be suspended for up to four months. Cars would also be seized, it said.

The order came after a complaint of increase in private taxi services. The ministry's statement described the trend as a "security offence and an unlicensed practice."

A total of 910 traffic violations had been recorded in the last two months, it said. The emergency police registered 473 of these and the traffic police 188 in Kuwait City, 140 in Hawalli and the rest in other governorates.

NOC forger jailed

12 kg hashish seized

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court has sentenced a man to four years imprisonment for forging a No-Objection Certificate. The NOC was "unwittingly" signed by a Kuwaiti to bring a driver to Kuwait, the court said.

The defendant used the official documents to bring a friend's wife as a maid and had paid an undisclosed sum of money to the Kuwaiti signatory, who believed that the expat was calling a driver.

The court heard that the defendant took the Kuwaiti sponsor's signature on a form that said a driver was being hired. He later asked the sponsor to sign on a blank form, claiming that the original had been misplaced. He told the sponsor he would fill the form with the help of a person who knew the procedures.

When the Ahmadi Immigration Department received the maid's visa application for the second time, officials called the sponsor for questioning. The department had issued one maid's visa, which had been used by the sponsor. He told interrogators the real story, which referred the forgery case to the public prosecutor.

In another case, the Criminal Court sentenced a man to five years imprisonment for drug trafficking. He was also fined KD300 for violating customs rules.

The CID confiscated three rolls of heroin, weighing 70 grammes and 90 grammes, from the defendant's house.

Meanwhile, customs officers have foiled several smuggling attempts, confiscating 12 kilos of hashish and two kilos of heroin valued at KD200,000.

One drugs haul was made at the Kuwait airport when customs officials seized 6 kgs hashish hidden in a secret compartment of a suitcase carried by an Asian passenger. In another case, two kilograms of hashish was confiscated.

Customs officers, said Abdul Razzak Al Obeid, are keen to curb smuggling and are aware of all tricks used by smugglers. "We will prevent the entry of drugs into our country," he said.



Complaints service

A new public service office opened by Kuwait Municipality yesterday shown in action processing complaints and inquiries from the public.

Counters at these offices will receive transactions and return them to the public after they have been processed by various departments. The municipality has also completed a new guide called the Public Service Guide to streamline the work procedures.

More data needed for education plan

By Qassem Al Nayer

DIRECTOR of Planning at the Ministry of Education Dr Jassem Al Hamdan has said that data would be vital to formulate the next educational plan.

Dr Al Hamdan said statistics are a vital tool in the development process and are used to determine the standard of learning, he said, and we need more information.

He said the Planning Department has a vital role in putting forward future projections and suggestions to meet the education needs of the country.

He said the department is giving top-priority to "train a team of highly qualified experts to organise students training programmes".

To augment the expertise of this team, Hamdan said that the department is in touch with various ministries, local authorities and other educational organisations to get a cross-section of "feed-back". This "feed-back", in the form of a "data-bank", provides the basis for disseminating and making recommendations. This will contribute to bringing about optimum results in the areas of education.

On a broader scale, the planning department at the Ministry of Education, in a co-operation with Arab authorities, is also in touch with other world organisations to enhance this discipline.

On the next five-year educational plan he said it will cover the period from 1990/91 - 1995/95.

Marriage takes back seat

BAHRAINIS nowadays tend to generally get married much later in life than they used to. The desire to pursue a career and the necessity to enjoy high income have considerably influenced the change in the trend of marriage among Bahraini men and women. This is particularly evident among the lower and middle classes in the island. Gone are the days when Bahraini women would get married between the age of 15-18, while men would wed from 18 onwards. Today Bahraini women, particularly those who are career-minded, prefer to wait and marry in their mid or late twenties while Bahraini males tend to marry in their late twenties and early thirties.

This change in the trend of marriage is generally attributed to economic as well as personal career-oriented goals. While it is true that money has become a prime necessity for success in all spheres, there is a need to achieve something in a chosen career. Today's young Bahrainis would prefer to have a successful career which is also financially rewarding as perhaps other youngsters worldwide.

In a fast and constantly changing world influenced by a host of trends, social norms notwithstanding, Bahraini youngsters are increasingly following an independent and modern outlook on life. Career ambition has exceeded marriage in the list of priorities in life. Late marriage has become necessary not only because of financial considerations, but also an acceptable social norm here.

This is particularly true for Bahraini girls. National women are no longer content to sit at home and wait to get married like their mothers and grandmothers before them. Today more local girls are pursuing education at all levels, in colleges and universities girls even outnumber boys in some classes, a trend that proves the rapid strides national women have taken in this field. Consequently, educated Bahraini women prefer to utilise their skills and knowledge by working in a chosen field. In the case of women a career is pursued not merely for money, but to fulfil an individual goal of achieving something for personal satisfaction.

The Government of Bahrain has also played a vital role in encouraging national women to come out and contribute to the national development in all spheres by working side by side with men.

Marriage invariably has taken a backseat for these independent, modern and career-minded women. Even after marriage Bahraini women continue to work. This decision is made easier because of liberal-minded and understanding husbands.

Bahraini parents too are understanding enough not to force their daughters into early marriage, but tend to give them a free-hand to a certain extent to decide where in most cases.

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Women rush to greet pearl divers

Precious peek into the past

By Kholoud Al Feeli.

BEING at the Salmiah Sea Club yesterday at 5 pm was like entering a time machine and returning to Kuwait 50 years ago.

Grandmothers, mothers, sisters and daughters were welcoming back the male members of their families, just as their ancestors did at the "gafal" or the return of the pearl divers.

The females expressed their joy at the return of their relatives by singing, dancing and distributing traditional Kuwaiti sweets.

The return itself wasn't really strange to them since most of the participants had relatives who were once divers.

Some proud mothers there, were asked how they felt about their sons participating in the 4th voyage commemorating the pearl diving tradition. The mother of six-year-old Hussain Al Sahneen said that this was the second time her son took part in such a voyage, and she encourages him to do so in order to learn self-reliance.

She said, "This is only a small part of the work that his grandfathers used to do (during their pearl-diving trips)."

Sixteen-year-old Abdalazeez "Shuaib" mother said that she was uncertain at the beginning whether to allow her son to participate, because of her concern that something might happen to him at sea. But

after this experience she will encourage him to go every year.

Mohammed Salem's grandmother as well as his mother were there to welcome him back. Mohammed, 17, was mainly encouraged by his grandmother's stories of the past concerning his grandfather's diving trips.

On television coverage of the event, his mother saw that his chest was wounded and regretted that she had allowed him to go. But after realising that it would make him more dependent, she decided to encourage him to go every year.

On her mother's advice, Mohammed's mother went and bought a mixture of ants and sweets called "noon" (in the Kuwaiti dialect) in order to greet him with it as soon as they anchored.

Because they were really concerned of their children's safety, most of the mothers didn't want the pearl-diving period to come around again.

However, they all agreed that this 18-day experience would develop their sons' personalities. They also thanked the Kuwaiti government and Sea Club for organising the trip.

Some of the expatriates that were there also praised the occasion and were happy that they could participate.

Kate and Kjell Hensle from Sweden have been in Kuwait for the past two and a half years. This was the second time they attended this festival. They said, "because we enjoyed it so much the first time, we looked forward to coming again this year."

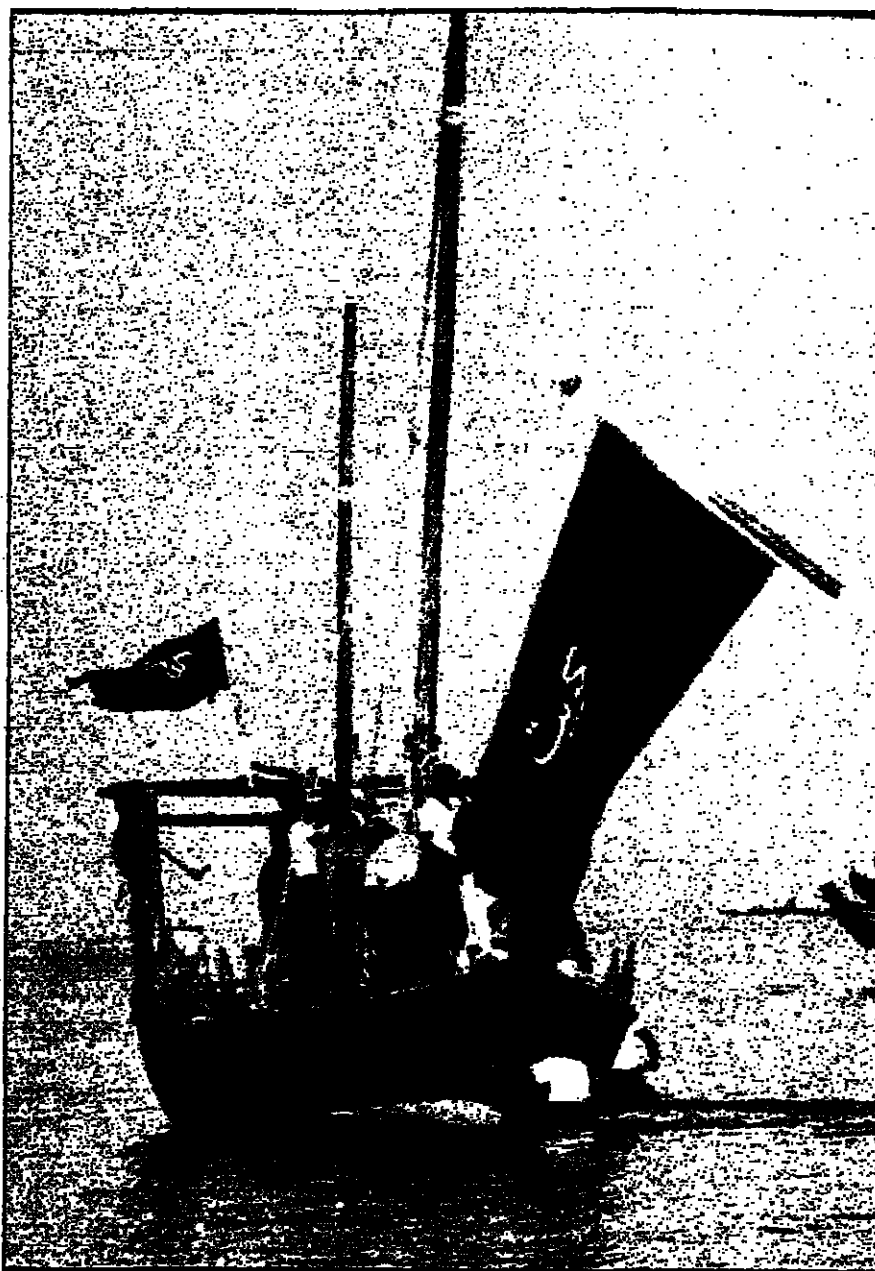
Franco Caspari, an Italian was visiting Kuwait for the first time and considered himself lucky to attend this festival which allowed him a glimpse of the Kuwaiti past.

For the past two years Tweed Asha, an American from California has been living in Kuwait. She acknowledged the efforts of the government to give expats a chance to see Kuwaiti folklore. She also said, "I now appreciate the value of pearls after seeing all the trouble the divers go through."

To the tone of drum beats and the embraces of loved ones, Kuwaiti travelled back in time that Friday afternoon to give the participants a taste of the past. (KUNA)



A young man extracts a pearl.



The pearl-diving expedition returns to shore.

Liquidity crisis imminent

Results reminiscent of Manakh chaos

OWNERS of office buildings in Kuwait have revealed that many other offices are exploiting buyers who need immediate cash.

Elaborating on this statement, they provided the following explanation on the "modus operandi": An individual purchases a car from a car trading office and arranges to have the instalments paid by Kuwait Finance House or Tasheel company. The finance houses pay cash to the car trading firm in the form of "lump-sum payment" for the total value of the car purchased. The buyer who has an instalment payment facility with the finance house, then sells the car to the same office he purchased it for a "lump-sum payment" in cash — of course at a considerable discount on the original value he contracted on the purchase.

This system provides the purchaser with immediate cash. The car office with profits realised on two sales for the same automobile, and the finance house their profits and what is claimed to be an increase in business.

This is the brighter side of the story. However, a closer look will give the reader the inherent pitfalls. The same car purchased by the first owner through the finance house is

again resold to another customer through another finance house. All along the car in question has not moved from the showroom.

Violate
An owner of a car office identified as Ali Al Mutawa said that though the practice does not violate the law, it will have severe repercussions not unlike the "Manakh" crisis. The reason is simple to see, he said. Those in need of funds will make use of the scheme using several finance houses and ultimately will arrive at a stage when they will not be in a position to meet their repayment schedules to these finance houses. This will leave the finance houses holding what he termed to be "dead cheques."

However, Mohammed Fayez, another car office owner said that his office does not do business in this manner. He added that this method of doing business is prohibited in Islam because it is tantamount to a subtle form of cheating and exploits the needy. The problems in the particular law of transfer of the car. There are no restrictions imposed on the transfer of cars, he said. The ownership of the car is transferred by the traffic department on the strength that the insurance company

has transferred the ownership to the prospective purchaser. This is detrimental to the interests of the second or third buyer who is unaware that the car he is purchasing is exactly an item that can be termed as "being pawned." There have been instances when the second or third purchaser has approached a financing company to enable him to make the purchase, only to find that the same car has been pawned to the same company — court cases have been common in these instances, Fayez added.

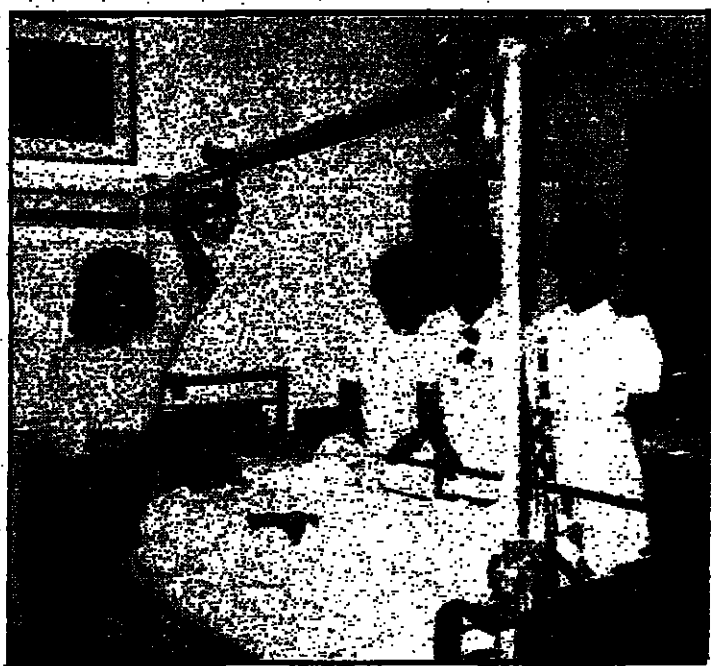
Tawfeeq Al Silawi pointed out that previously the traffic department used to register the car in the name of the selling firm or the financing company. The present system facilitates the purchaser to have the car registered in his name — whether he has paid the total price or only one instalment. From the legal point of view, the buyer cannot own the car until he has completed paying all instalments either to the finance house or the car company. This "loop-hole" is mainly responsible for the increase in the number of deals being conducted which have come to be termed "liquidating non-existing assets" Silawi said.

Authorities to sell land seized in Farwaniya

THE State of Kuwait will sell expropriated lands in the Farwaniya area according to certain pre-set conditions. These lands will be disposed off in a manner taking into account the joint interests of both citizens and the national economy and within a well defined time-frame, said Yusuf Al Dakhil, director of state properties department at the Ministry of Finance.

Asked to comment on the status of the tenants or owners of expropriated houses, the official said that the department gives a period of time deemed adequate for evacuation of these houses. If there is no evacuation within the stipulated period, a warning is sent to those concerned. Should this produce no results, the power supply is cut and finally police are then called in to forcibly evacuate the premises.

However, the department is flexible in implementing the law in this respect when it is convinced that, due to extenuating circumstances, the tenant or landlord cannot evacuate the house or shop during the stipulated period and an extension is granted on humanitarian grounds. This flexibility is reflected in the case of owners of stalls at the vegetable and meat market in Kuwait City. However, indefinite delays cannot be accepted as this will impede the projects intended to be carried out on these sites, the official said.



Friends in deed

THE Filipino Ladies Association in Kuwait participated actively in this year's "Bisig ng Manggagawa '89, Kapilku" summer sports festival. The Association's officers led their teams to victory. Flissak Director Esther B. Madamba led her Al Rashed Freight team to become champions in women's basketball. Director Eva Sabay was Hatid-Ligaya's team captain in Basketball & Volleyball and team captain in bowling for Far East Restaurant. Director Tess Balderas was Durrani's team captain in basketball. Other Flissak officers and members played in various women's division games, lent their support to their friends or served as first aiders during the days the games were held.

However, victory is pyrrhic when not shared. So, like their friends and sponsors, Flissak chose to share their blessings to Filipinos confined in various hospitals in Kuwait. According to Ludovina Nolasco, confined at Al-Razi hospital, Flissak's visits were the bright hours of her days especially since she has no family in Kuwait and she's bedridden due to a fracture on her leg. Other patients visited were confined in the intensive care unit of Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital, orthopaedic ward and medical ward. Photo shows Flissak officers & Filipino patients.

Ahmadi dwellers content

THE general consensus of the inhabitants of Ahmadi is that the city is the most progressive in Kuwait as it has been provided ultra-modern infrastructure conducive to a high standard of living. Additionally, they commended the authorities for their endeavour to maintain and improve existing facilities. They hoped in particular, that the authorities would look into the few complaints.

They claimed that their location at the core of the oil industry made pollution a serious health hazard. A lack of garbage containers strategically distributed also was an important issue. Teenagers with "souped-up cars," and those on foot — so called "loiters" who make a hobby of pestering families and females also came in for severe criticism. A paucity of bank branches inconveniences residents and quite often it has become imperative for citizens to travel to Fahahel to obtain much needed funds. They requested the Public Authority for Civil Information to open a branch in the Ahmadi area to alleviate this problem.

On the positive aspects of organisation at Ahmadi, citizens praised the services of the Ahmadi Co-operative Society for supplying all the required commodities at reasonable prices and for keeping the facility open all hours. The postal services were also commended for their "exemplary services" — home delivery they said in punctual.

Fewer cars, fewer deaths

LEARNER'S driving licences (istamar) are being issued by the General Traffic Administration (GTA) to about 90 per cent of applicants in various categories, Col. Mohammed Al Arada, director of traffic department at Jabra Governorate said.

The problem is not one of whether to grant or suspend issuing these licences, but to keep in mind that roads have become quite crowded with vehicles. This causes traffic jams and an increase in the number of traffic accidents, the official said.

Arada suggested that people should be encouraged to use collective transport like buses and taxis to reduce traffic congestion. The official also called on ministries, institutions and employers to provide commuter facilities to their workers to and from their homes. Nominal charges from these services could be recovered from the employee, the official said.

Studies undertaken have determined that traffic accidents cause more deaths than do contagious diseases. These deaths are highest among youths. Col. Arada said, adding that 1,718 persons died as a result of road accidents during the period 1984 to 1988. The distribution is: 397 persons died in 1984, 396 in 1985, 340 in 1986, 312 in 1987 and 372 in 1988. A total of 3,229 persons were injured in road accidents in 1988.

Traffic accidents are the cause of loss of life, property, heartache to members of the victim's family and considerable pressure on medical facilities — not to mention the monetary loss, Col. Arada said.

The official commented that all other laws and regulations are respected why not the traffic laws? He said that the most serious violations committed at Jabra Governorate are related to driving without a licence, crossing at the red traffic signal, driving at high speed and zig-zagging from lane to lane.

Corrigendum

The name of the Ahmadi Governor was inadvertently published incorrectly on August 15, Page 9.

The correct name is Sheikh Ali Al Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah.

'Bad boys' to blame

Youths protest hall licence ban

LICENCES to operate recreational parlours will not be issued, according to Rashed Al Mejrin, assistant undersecretary for Commercial Affairs at the Ministry of Commerce.

This decision is a result of a co-operative study undertaken on the subject by several authorities. The study was submitted to the Council of Ministers for recommendations, the official added.

In an interview with a local daily, Mejrin stressed that the Ministry of Commerce does not favourably view granting any further licences even though previous licences were restricted to children's games shops only.

Speaking on the issue, the manager of one recreational games hall said that many youths had their memberships in these facilities cancelled due to bad behaviour while on the premises.

Yousif Al Somait, a reporter at one of the local dailies said that the existence of recreational game halls increases the opportunity for social deviation and misconduct among youths. He criticised the Ministry of Interior for permitting these halls to operate which encouraged youths to "gang-up" and misbehave. He also blamed parents for not monitoring their children's activities late at night.

Complain

Young men, however, complain that they are not permitted to enter these halls unless they are accompanied by their families. Some said that they were taken to the police station for using "dishonest means" to gain access to these halls. Some confessed that they even dressed as women to gain access to these halls. They called on officials to establish special "men-only" halls. They added that families have taken over all halls and they are left with no facilities.

A 19-year-old boy said that he spends most of his time at game halls and begins playing from 1:00 pm until 11:00 pm everyday. He indicated that he spends

nearly KD5 each time he is inside these halls. He admitted that he and his friends are usually not permitted to enter these halls and that they are often stopped by security men who are present at the gates of these halls. Still they use every ruse to deceive the security personnel — they even request a girl to permit them to enter with them claiming that the girl is their sister, he added.

Essential

A 17-year-old boy indicated that having game halls is essential to the welfare of youths as they need varied types of activities. He added that he usually goes to these halls in the company of some friends from 5:00 pm until 10:00 pm daily and then leaves to eat at a restaurant and then goes to the beach. He said that these halls provided him the opportunity to mix with the opposite sex and quite often he was able to accompany them to dinner. He said that he spends KD 5 - 6 every day which he receives from his father as his daily pocket money. He added that most youths are harassed by the police patrols and claimed that the authorities had no right to prevent youths from enjoying themselves and having fun.

A 16-year-old youth said that time does indeed pass quite fast when he is in the game rooms and that it is wrong to restrict entry to only families. However, he said that he does not like to spend a lot of money in these halls, but it is well worth it occasionally. He added that he is usually punished by his parents when he returns home late from these outings.

Mejrin said that, presently, there are only seven official game rooms authorised by the ministry in addition to two companies and all of them have to comply with the restrictions imposed for operation as indicated by the ministry. He called for increased supervision of the family to censor and follow-up the activities of their children.

Book fair to be held

Faiha school workshop

PREPARATIONS are underway at Faiha intermediate school to classify, index and censor books supplied by printing establishments from throughout the Arab world. These preparations are taking place in readiness for the 15th Arabian Book Fair which is to be held at the Fairs Ground in Mishref Nov 29 - Dec 14.

A local daily visited the workshop at Faiha school and interviewed the head of the fairs section at the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Sahel Al Ajmi.

Ajmi said that nearly all Arab countries will take part in the Arabic Book Fair including Lebanon which is in a state of war. He pointed out that only Yemen apologised for not being able to participate this year. He added Morocco will be taking part for the first time.

Ajmi stated that preparation for the 15th Arabic book fair began last March with the arrival of the first batch of books. He said that workers at the workshop are presently classifying and indexing the consignment of books, adding that a full index on the fair will be available before it opens.

He indicated that this year the fair will include 30,000 different book titles. The index will provide interested visitors the title, the publishing house, price and year of publication to facilitate access. These books will be on display at 170 sections at the fair.

He added that all books are censored by the Ministry of Information and that fluctuations in their prices is their main problem.

Ajmi indicated that the customs department were very helpful in receiving the books and the Ministry of Education had provided them with a special hall to carry out the classification and indexing process. He added that this year's fair will be highly developed and the organisational activities streamlined.

Caution on Kuwait's coastline

HEAD of the Coastal Station of the Ministry of Communications, Fahad Abdullah Al Habbad pointed out that the coastal station is the only station in Kuwait working 24 hours a day. The station provides commercial ships with information on weather, atmospheric pressure and indicates danger zones to ensure their safety. In addition to these duties, the station provides commercial ships with telegraphic communication facilities.

On a related issue, the head of the Mobile Station Hamza Abbas said that the station provides rescue services to boats in co-ordination with the Coast Guard and the Fire Department. He added that the station conducts rescue missions of people and boats distressed at sea. He said that the rescue telephone number is "028" cordless.

The Coastal Station of the Ministry of Communications is part of the Movements and Operations department at the ministry. It is located in Doha to ensure the safety of commercial ships via communication facilities between the station and the ships.

Habbad added that the operations room at the station specialises in conducting contacts with ships around the clock.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Audience

KUWAIT, Aug 19, (KUNA): HH the Amir received in audience the acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

Press trip

KUWAIT, Aug 19, (KUNA): Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah received an Egyptian journalists delegation visiting the country at the invitation of the Information Ministry.

They praised the Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations particularly at the information field. Present at the meeting was acting Information Undersecretary Hamad Al Roumi.

Commerce call

KUWAIT, Aug 19, (KUNA): Minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Abdul Razzak Al Khalid received Ambassador of Brazil to Kuwait Sergio Seabrade Noronha.

The two sides reviewed trade relations between the two countries and means of boosting them.

The minister also received Sudan's Charge d'Affaires to Kuwait Fatma Al Biely and the Economic Counsellor of the Embassy Yassin Aamer.

The two sides discussed economic and trade relations between the two countries as well as Kuwait's participation in the Khartoum exhibition.

Press meet

KUWAIT, Aug 19, (KUNA): Information Undersecretary Abdul Aziz Jaafar left here for Tunisia to attend the 47th session of the Standing Committee for Arab Media that will open in the Tunisian capital on Sunday.

Jaafar is leading a delegation comprising senior information officials.

The meeting is to precede the 24th meeting of the Arab Information Ministers to convene in Tunis on Wednesday.

Afghan praise

KUWAIT, Aug 19, (KUNA): An Afghan diplomat praised Kuwait's stance toward finding a solution to the Afghan problem.

Second Secretary of the Afghanistan embassy in Kuwait Ahmed Shah Yousifi said in a statement published by Kuwaiti daily Al Qabas today, that his country appreciates Kuwait's "realistic and logical stance" towards solving Afghanistan's problems according to the Geneva agreement signed between Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Yousifi, in his statement marking his country's 70th National Day anniversary, praised efforts of HH the Amir of Kuwait, current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah to settle Arab and Islamic problems and end conflicts through understanding and dialogue.

Awqaf meet ends

BAGHDAD, Aug 19, (KUNA): The Awqaf and Islamic affairs ministers of the Arab Co-operation Council last night ended their first conference.

The meeting has called for co-ordinating legislations and formulating a joint plan to hold seminars.

The Awqaf ministers of Egypt, Jordan, the Yemen Arab Republic and Iraq agreed to meet once a year. Their next conference will be held in Egypt.

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Thought for today

MY life's dream has been a perpetual nightmare —
 Francois Marie Arcuet de Voltaire, French writer (1694-1778).

OPINION

Chance to end Lebanon crisis

OCCASIONALLY military forecasts turn out to be exactly the opposite of commanders' expectations. Lebanon vividly reflects this statement.

Some military bosses believed that the battle between opposing forces could be settled in 24 hours, but these 24 hours have become 24 days and could well extend to 24 months.

As a direct result, they have realised that continuing to support their allies is an exercise in futility and has only contributed to huge devastation. This acceptance of the fact, has prompted them to support the UN Security Council resolution on Lebanon. As a result, the Arab three-man committee assigned to find a solution to the Lebanese crisis resumed its efforts by announcing a new Lebanese charter.

The Lebanese have been torn apart by the presence of foreign troops. It will remain a black chapter in Lebanese history for a long time.

Beyond doubt, the military option has failed in Lebanon. So as not to lead to more complications which may cross the borders of Lebanon, a golden opportunity has presented itself to put an end to the Lebanese crisis which will also involve a face-saving process to those who destroyed Lebanon. The time is opportune to end this crisis.

Missing this opportunity will cost those who missed it dearly. To buttress this line of thought, one need only look at the thousands of tonnes of shells that rained on Lebanon, but did not terrify the Lebanese people from expressing their sympathy with the leaders who desire to bring salvation to this war-torn country.

It must be borne in mind that there is no force in this world that can circumvent laws and escape punishment. Throughout this crisis, the Lebanese people have proved that they are capable of protecting themselves — ready for a long war to achieve salvation of their country. They realise that ultimately, they will not be the only losers.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Pressure on Red Cross

THE world's best-known humanitarian watchdogs want more respect for conventions of war 125 years after they told nations: If you are going to kill and maim, at least be civilised about it.

Major European powers agreed to this concept after a stomach-churning tour of an Italian battlefield by Swiss businessman Henry Dunant.

But movement he created, now the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), is under pressure even from its own staff to be tougher with governments who flout the virtually universally agreed Geneva conventions.

"I would like to launch an appeal to all states, an appeal to take their obligations under humanitarian law seriously, not to forget individuals and to give humanitarian considerations greater importance than they give now," ICRC President Cornelio Sommaruga said.

He was speaking in advance of the 125th anniversary of the August 22, 1864, signing of the first Geneva convention which provided for the care of wounded soldiers and protecting rescue workers under a Red Cross.

But today, the all-Swiss ICRC has to walk a tight-rope between speaking out harshly enough against violators and risking being thrown out of these countries.

Several months ago 200 members of staff sent a letter, just made public, complaining to Sommaruga that the organisation was not standing up to foreign governments firmly enough.

The first convention stemmed from Dunant's tour of the battlefield of Solferino in 1859. He found 40,000 wounded soldiers mostly abandoned to die after fighting between French and Sardinians on one side and Austrians on the other.

He organised local women to help the wounded and went on to found the Red Cross movement and bring about the first Geneva convention.

The start of international humanitarian law, this agreement led to other pacts. The best known are the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 — which protect Prisoners-of-War (PoWs) and civilian populations in time of war, as well as sick and wounded soldiers and sailors.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1526 — Forces under Italian Cardinal Pompeo Colonna plunder Rome, forcing Pope Clement VII to take refuge in castle of St Angelo.

1641 — Britain signs Treaty of Pacification with Scotland.

1791 — Alaska is discovered by Danish navigator Vitus Jonas Bering.

1831 — French Army enters Belgium, forcing Dutch forces to withdraw.

1886 — Successful military coup is launched in Sofia, Bulgaria.

1908 — Belgium's King Leopold II hands over the Congo to Belgian government.

1918 — British offensive on Western front opens in World War I.

1946 — Allied Control Commission dissolves Wehrmacht in Germany.

1953 — France deposes Sultan of Morocco.

1955 — Anti-French riots break out in Morocco.

1962 — Malta requests independence within British Commonwealth on breakdown of talks for financial aid.

1968 — Soviet Union and other Warsaw Pact nations invade Czechoslovakia to crush Alexander Dubcek's liberal regime.

1971 — Leaders of Libya, Egypt and Syria sign constitution designed to bind their countries in federation of Arab republics.

1975 — US spaceship bound for planet Mars is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

1976 — South Africa announces new concession, giving urban blacks full title to land on which they live.

1986 — Gun battle erupts between police and anti-government protesters in Islamabad, Pakistan, and at least one man is killed.

1987 — Treasure hunters salvaging objects from doomed luxury liner Titanic scoop up satchel containing a fortune in jewels.

1988 — Thousands of Burmese rally in Rangoon to pressure the government to restore multi-party democracy.

One year after Gulf ceasefire

Belligerents are re-arming

ONE year after the ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, the belligerents are re-arming on a large scale as they eye each other warily across the truce line.

Peace talks that began five days after the Aug 20 ceasefire have stalled. The two sides have achieved nothing in four rounds of indirect negotiations through UN representatives and have yet to meet face-to-face.

There are moves to resume the talks in October, but diplomats said there was little prospect of a breakthrough.

The talks have bogged down in disputes over the Shatt-Al-Arab waterway, the southern border between the two countries, and Iraq's occupation of 1,000 square miles (2,600 square kilometres) of Iranian territory, even though the UN ceasefire resolution specified a return to pre-war borders.

The Iraqis had claimed that political divisions in Tehran hampered progress because the Iraqis could not agree on a cohesive policy.

The June 3 death of Ayatollah Khomeini and the July 28 election of Iran's pragmatic new President, Hashemi Rafsanjani, raised hopes that Tehran would be more flexible.

Rafsanjani, who will be 55 on the Aug 25 anniversary of the beginning of peace talks, was instrumental in convincing Khomeini to accept the UN Security Council's ceasefire resolution following a series of battlefield defeats.

"If Rafsanjani's views prevail, it could lead to some advance in the peace process, but there's a lot of scepticism as to whether any formal peace treaty will ever be signed," Philip Robbins, an analyst with London's Royal Institute for International Affairs, noted in a telephone interview.

Rafsanjani, leader of Tehran's so-called pragmatists, declared when he was sworn in Thursday that Iran "must try to stop the outbreak of war" so it can concentrate on the massive task of post-war reconstruction and rebuilding its sagging economy.

But he did not indicate any new sign of flexibility in Iran's insistence it will make no concessions until the Iraqis withdraw from its territory.

He noted shortly before his election: "We're determined to put an end ... to the issue of the war. We will, however, make no concessions."

"Iraq too will not go back to war easily. But the state of no-war, no-peace may last for some time."

Iraq says there can be no progress until the Iraqis allow the Shatt-Al-Arab, its main outlet to the Gulf, to be reopened.

Baghdad says that it abrogated a 1975 agreement that drew the border down the middle of the waterway shortly before it invaded Iran Sept 22, 1980.

Before 1975, the border had run down the eastern, Iranian bank. Tehran says the agreement is still valid.

The deadlock has left an estimated 100,000 men held by both sides languishing in prisoner of war camps.

Only a few hundred sick and disabled PoWs have been exchanged so far.

The Gulf Arab states to the south are also engaged in a post-war arms buildup that is doing little to foster a sense of security in the region. Everyone is keeping their guard up.

The Iraqis retain the military technological edge they had during the war and are likely to maintain that for at least five years as they upgrade their Soviet and French weapons.

The Iraqis are making an all-out drive to switch their increasingly deteriorating US-supplied arsenal to Soviet-designed systems, a move analysts say will take years to complete.

Robbins said the Iraqis will be "very nervous" if the quality of Iran's military hardware is improved before a formal peace is made.

"One of the reasons Iran finally agreed to a ceasefire was because of Iraq's technological edge," he said. "Iran was particularly defenseless against air attacks in the latter stages of the war."

Both sides are hungry for advanced technology to develop their own arms industries, lessening dependence on other countries.

Iran is believed to have a \$20-billion military shopping list and is looking to the Soviet bloc, China and North Korea for weaponry to upgrade its depleted inventory.

A spate of ceasefire violations, mainly by the Iraqis, have further poisoned the atmosphere. The Iraqis have flooded a large area held by the Iraqis in the south, seeking to force them back across the border.

This has touched off several serious artillery clashes along the truce line, where the opposing forces are only yards (metres) apart in some places.

The UN force has contained these eruptions, but observers in Baghdad have reported an increase in violations in recent weeks.



Hashemi Rafsanjani: raising hopes

UNIIMOG persuades

ON hill 312 in the central sector of the front, one Iraqi and one Iranian soldier have shared the same foxhole since a ceasefire halted the Gulf war one year ago.

"They sit there drinking tea together," Vesselin Kostov, political officer for the 350-strong United Nations Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG), told Reuters.

Nobody seems to know how the soldiers ended up in the same trench without shooting each other before the UN-mediated ceasefire formally ended hostilities on Aug 20, 1988.

They have an obvious personal interest in keeping the peace, but their enforced coexistence at close quarters shows how hard it has been for UNIIMOG's patient officers to persuade either side to give ground to make forward positions less dangerous.

It has proved equally difficult for the United Nations to get the belligerents to agree on a withdrawal to international boundaries, which Security Council resolution 598 stipulated as the next step after consolidation of the ceasefire.

"The parties cannot agree on the meaning of the ceasefire," Kostov said. "We suggested that both sides withdraw from these close positions, but they won't move an inch."

Iraqi and Iranian forces are only 10 metres (yards) apart in a dozen places along the 1,200-km (750-mile) front that snakes through desert, marsh and mountain.

UNIIMOG receives about 100 alleged ceasefire violations a month, many of them minor, and confirms at least a quarter.

UN observers from 26 nations use jeeps, helicopters, boats, mules, skis or their own feet to patrol both sides of the line, and sometimes manage to settle disputes.

"The pattern is unchanged," Kostov said. "Most of the alleged violations are to do with military engineering works, improving positions, moving weapons, building lookout posts. A lot of the activity seems to be just to keep soldiers busy."

Kostov said reported violations in the northern sector had increased over the past few months as opposing forces reoccupied summer positions they had abandoned during the winter.

A major dispute over Iranian flooding of Iraqi forward positions along 60 km (40 miles) of the southern Basra sector led to artillery and mortar battles in March in which thousands of rounds were fired, some landing close to UN military observers.

There were no casualties, but the conflict was not settled and UNIIMOG fears it may flare again if autumn rains aggravate the flooding and the two sides resume building earthworks.

Kostov said the observer group, which costs the United Nations almost \$8 million a month, had been able to keep Iran and Iraq informed about the other side's civil reconstruction projects near the front.

"Reconstruction work on (the Iraqi ports of) Basra and Faw and on (the Iranian) oil refinery at Abadan was coordinated with UNIIMOG and there have been no incidents," he said.

Iran and Iraq, however, seem no closer towards turning the ceasefire into a lasting peace settlement after eight years of war that killed up to one million people and wounded many more.

Mazowiecki — from prison to PM



Tadeusz Mazowiecki: least known

participated in political discussions and fought for press freedoms in a nation where the government controlled all publications.

Trained as a lawyer, he submitted the court application for restoration of Solidarity's legal status, as agreed to in the reform talks.

On April 17, the day the union regained legality, Mazowiecki stood on the courthouse steps, arms uplifted with a bouquet of red tulips in one hand.

"Today for me means the restoration of justice," he said at the time.

Recalling he had been on hand for the first registration in 1980, he said, "I hope I will not have to come here a third time."

At other times, he appears dour, even cold. A windower who lost his young wife to cancer and still wears his wedding ring, Mazowiecki raised three sons alone in a small apartment on Warsaw's main commercial street.

Born on April 18, 1927, in the small central Poland city of Plock, Mazowiecki was raised in an intellectual family.

By 21, he had been dismissed from his academic editing house job for his "clericalism" — links too close to the church in the first years of communist Poland.

He began to work with Pax, one of the few venues for any thought independent of the Communist Party but in effect a government attempt to dilute church-based opposition by separating intellectuals from the religious hierarchy. By 1955, he was so at odds with the mix of politics with religion that he was suspended.

In 1958, he found the Catholic monthly magazine "Wies", or "Link", which he edited until 1981, when he started Tygodnik Solidarnosc.

"Wies" reflected, and to a degree preceded the modernisation of Catholicism put forth by the second Vatican council.

Mazowiecki became aligned with Znak, a group supporting regeneration of Poland based on Catholic values. Officially condoned under the protection of the church, Znak had a Sejm delegation and Mazowiecki became a parliament deputy in 1961.

By 1970, Mazowiecki's agitation for democratisation of public life and social justice had run afoul of official tolerance and he was not permitted to serve another term.

As opposition efforts were organising in the mid-1970s, especially after worker riots in 1976, Mazowiecki went to Western Europe in search of support and aid. Mention of free trade unions in a West German newspaper interview resulted in withdrawal of his passport for four years.

"Wies" became a more radical forum, publishing articles by Adam Michnik and other strong opposition voices.

Mazowiecki initiated a letter by more than 60 intellectuals urging authorities to find a peaceful solution to the strike that erupted on the Baltic Coast in August 1980 and led to Solidarity's founding.

France keeps Syria guessing

FRANCE is deploying warships and diplomats to keep Syria guessing about its next move and to try to deter a further escalation of the conflict in Beirut.

But Paris will think more than twice before getting directly involved in the fighting, despite a veiled yet unmistakable warning to Syria on Friday.

"France is anything but rash. It is simple making the point that diplomatic action is not the only option available," a Western diplomat said about the French naval buildup of Lebanon.

After sending envoys to Arab capitals, Moscow and the Vatican, President Francois Mitterrand on Thursday ordered the aircraft carrier Foch to sail to Lebanon.

It will join three other naval vessels already there and government sources said other ships were on standby.

The flotilla's stated mission is to evacuate the French community in Beirut if necessary. Of the 7,000 French citizens in Lebanon, about 80 per cent have dual nationality.

But French official sources and diplomatic analysts in Paris said the naval presence was a warning to Syria, which is helping Muslim militias in their battle against the mainly Christian Army of General Michel Aoun.

"We want to keep the Syrians on their toes. I think they have already seen that the political landscape is changing," one French source said.

Prime Minister Michel Rocard on Friday said France would not allow bombardments to continue if it had to help besieged Beirut and evacuate its nationals.

"We would have to impose a localised and temporary silence on the guns during such humanitarian operations," he said without giving details.

The Foch, which was preparing to sail from the southern French port of Toulon on Friday, is suited for the task. Apart from its own guns it can carry 40 Super-Éclair fighters armed with two sets of missiles, assault helicopters and hundreds of marines.

French officials are satisfied with the results so far of the diplomatic initiatives launched on Aug 12.

The UN Security Council met in emergency session and its appeal for a ceasefire was partly respected. Regional states also stepped up efforts to revive Arab League mediation efforts which all the main powers say is the best hope for a settlement.

European diplomatic sources in Paris said Italy and Belgium were pressing for the 12-nation European Economic Community (EEC) to take a higher profile in support of France.

But French officials are aware of the constraints against effective diplomacy — including of the gunboat variety — against Syria.

They believe the United States and Britain fear that any initiative could endanger the lives of hostages in Lebanon.

The pro-Iranian groups holding the hostages have accepted Syria as their intermediary during negotiations about a possible mass release.

The Soviet Union wants a settlement but does not want Syria, its traditional ally, humiliated and the balance of power with Iraq emerge lopsided. Any military confrontation with Syria or its allies would inevitably produce a united Arab rebuke.

"We cannot allow this affair to provoke a crisis with the Arab world," one French official favouring a moderate approach said.

As he weighs up the options Mitterrand will certainly recall the high price France has paid in the past for intervening in Lebanon, which it ruled between the two world wars.

A suicide car-bomber killed 58 French paratroopers in Beirut in 1983 and at least 27 French soldiers serving with UN peacekeeping forces have died in south Lebanon.

The Lebanese have very different feelings about the old colonial power.

All factions sometimes refer to Paris as the "tender mother."

When Christians say it, they are sincere. When Shi'ite Muslims utter the phrase, it is with distaste.

France has proclaimed an even-handed policy during Lebanon's 14 years of civil war but Muslims generally denounce Paris for being pro-Christian.

On the Muslim side of Beirut's Green Line, they say France ultimately always sides with its co-religionists. (Reuters Paris).

Quote me

"It is incredible that the government is prepared to use arms on people who wish to have a picnic. Instead of getting rid of beach apartheid, they protect it with policemen, dogs and guns." — Desmond Tutu, leader of South Africa's Anglican church said in a news conference.

"There is a vacuum now in Lebanon and if they (the Arabs) don't fill it others will do. Only an Arab peace force can impose a settlement in Lebanon and help the Lebanese overcome their problem." — Yasser Arafat said in a news conference.

"Everyone is glad to get this one out of the way after all that has happened during the past 48 hours. It has been a really good day and a great start for us." — Alex Ferguson, one of six managers of Manchester United, said after their victory.

"I didn't feel too well before the race, with a sore throat, and I had a cold cloth on my forehead to make me feel better. I felt a lot relaxed before the race and called my mother. She read me some scriptures over the phone and I felt a lot better." — Roger Kingdom said after he set a 110 metre hurdles record in Switzerland.

"I love the butterfly stroke. I was not sure whether I should enter butterfly or backstroke in addition to the medley races, but I had a cold before the backstroke events." — Tamas Darnyi said after winning the 200 metres butterfly title in European swimming championships.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Gloomy forecast for Polish economy

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, Aug 19, (AP): A US presidential spokesman responded to reports of political developments in Poland by lauding moves towards more democracy, but says any new government there will face difficulties trying to improve the economy.

"Economically it is going to be very difficult" for any new government in Poland, said Presidential Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater, adding that problems would "take a good deal of patience and determination" to solve.

News reports yesterday said Polish President Wojciech Jaruzelski had chosen Solidarity activist Tadeusz Mazowiecki to be the new prime minister and lead the East bloc's first non-communist government.

When US President George Bush visited Poland last month, he said his administration would reward the nation for political reform, and he unveiled the \$119 million package of US aid.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa told Bush that Poland will need at least \$10 billion in international aid. US allies are expected to meet in Europe in late September to discuss a multi-national rescue package to supplement the US aid.

Fitzwater, in Maine with the President, said discussion of any increase in the \$119-million aid package was premature. He said too little is known about the structure of Poland's changing government.

"It's too early at this point to know how they (Poland's leaders) are going to make it work, let alone how it will work," Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater said US budget restraints continue to be a factor in any possible boost in US aid. "We don't have a lot of money to offer."

"At this point, it's just far too early to talk about signals of what we will do (in terms of more US aid) or what's available to us," Fitzwater said.

At the State Department in Washington, spokesman Richard Boucher said, "we got a lot under way to do the steps the President's already announced, and that's our priority right now."

Indian rupee	18.050
Sri Lankan rupee	8.380
Pakistani rupee	14.320
Bangladesh taka	9.190
US dollar	299.40
Pound sterling	470.25
Deutsche mark	153.15
UAE dirham	0.8157
Japanese yen	0.02110

GCC insurance sector still depending on foreign expertise

MANAMA, Aug 19, (GNA): There are 70 national insurance companies and two reinsurance companies in the six GCC states, according to a recent study prepared in Bahrain. The study published in Al Aami newspaper said that the maximum number of national insurance companies is in Saudi Arabia with 37 companies followed by UAE with 18 in Bahrain, 4 in Kuwait, 5 and 3 each in Oman and Qatar. The two reinsurance are in Bahrain and Kuwait.

The study said that the insurance activities began in the GCC countries in early '90s and it was restricted to foreign insurance offices and agencies and they limited their activities to providing funds to foreign investors. Later, some of the GCC states enforced compulsory third party insurance on cars. This system was first implemented in Bahrain in 1954.

Kuwait issued its first insurance leg-

islation in 1961. The law regulated the working of the national insurance companies and foreign insurance agencies in the country.

The study added that the economic boom which started early '70s in the Gulf with the increasing oil revenues and the expansion in investments and business activities, pushed some Gulf investors with the contribution of foreign investors to establish many insurance companies operating in various sectors till the present time.

It added that the private sector is dominating over the insurance sector in the GCC states and that they still greatly depending on foreign expertise. It said that Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, UAE and recently Bahrain, have laws to regulate and govern the insurance sector while such law is non-existent and is expected to be issued very shortly.

The study said that the Insurance Department in Bahrain supervises 59 insurance companies operating in the country, 6 of them are national. It added that the total insurance instalments paid to the national insurance companies in the GCC states was \$1,073.3 million in 1987, a \$50.1 million increase from 1986. The biggest amount was in Saudi Arabia with \$510.9 million, followed by UAE with \$221.5 million, Kuwait with \$190.4 million, Qatar \$57.4 million, Oman \$49.1 million and Bahrain with \$44 million.

The study said that there are two main insurance fields for the national companies in GCC states namely, life insurance and property and accidents insurance. Life insurance accounted with only 3.9 per cent of the total insurance instalments. The amount

was \$41.9 million in 1987 with Kuwait topping the list with \$25 million. Saudi Arabia does not have this type of insurance. In UAE, life insurance instalments totalled \$14.5 million, Oman \$1.7 million, Qatar \$0.6 million and Bahrain only 0.1 million.

Air and marine insurance gathers the largest share among all types of insurance with instalments reaching up to \$281.6 million in 1987 in all the six GCC member states. Saudi Arabia had almost half of this amount with \$134.4 million, followed by UAE with \$69.7 million, Kuwait \$49.6 million, Qatar \$11.1 million, Oman \$10.5 million and in last Bahrain with \$6.4 million. The total amount of air and marine insurance form over 27.3 per cent of insurance instalments with the exception of life insurance. Although it varies from country to another, its contribu-

tion ranges between 20 per cent to 40 per cent.

Car insurance instalment forms the second largest sector with instalments totalling over \$272 million in 1987. Saudi Arabia again is the largest contributor with more than half of the amount. Its car insurance instalments reached \$150.6 million followed by Kuwait with \$45.9 million, UAE \$29.6 million, Oman \$18.5 million, Bahrain with \$14.2 million and lastly Qatar with \$13.3 million. Car insurance amount formed 26.4 per cent of the total amounts of insurance instalments collected in GCC in 1987.

Insurance on oil instalments against fires comes in third position with its instalments reaching up to \$199.9 million. Saudi Arabia came first with \$66.9 million, followed by Kuwait with \$36 million, UAE \$23.2 million, Qatar

\$12.2 million, and the rest in other countries. Instalment of engineering insurance formed 10.7 per cent of all insurance instalment which reached \$110.9 million in 1987. More than half of this amount was in Saudi Arabia with \$64.4 million and the amount in Kuwait was \$10.9 million.

The study added that insurance against general accidents is not common in all GCC states. It exists in Kuwait which gathered \$16.6 million of instalments in 1987. The study added that the reinsurance activities in the GCC states are very weak and small. There are only two reinsurance companies in the GCC states, the first in Kuwait and the second in Bahrain with Kuwait as partner. The reinsurance company in Bahrain picked up its activity during the past two years with its insurance instalments reaching \$153.6 million in 1988.

Tehran to use \$3.1b of foreign credits this year

Iran's economy 'in dire straits'

NICOSIA, Aug 19, (Reuters): Iran's economy is sick and bankrupt according to the head of the Parliamentary Budget and Planning Committee.

"We are preoccupied with a sick, dependent and bankrupt economy," committee head Morteza Alviri said in a newspaper interview quoted today by the Iranian news agency IRNA.

Alviri said causes of Iran's economic malaise included wide fluctuations in the price of oil, massive movement of the population to cities and lack of balance between revenue and spending.

"Jobs seem to get scarcer by the day despite the fact that the nation has embarked on a broad reconstruction programme in which hundreds of towns and cities are to be rebuilt," he said.

Iran's infrastructure took a heavy battering from Iraq during the Iran-Iraq war which ended with a ceasefire one year ago on Sunday.

The agency quoted another newspaper, the English-language Kayhan International, as

calling the interview depressing. Alviri's comments contained no comprehensive solutions to "the colossal economic problems of the country, almost all of which are the product of Iran's dependence on oil as the major source of foreign income," the paper said.

It said a five-year economic plan now being drafted failed to tackle "the most important and dangerous drawback in Iranian society — the distribution of wealth."

President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, who took office on Thursday, said in his inaugural speech that Iran's economic problems must take priority.

Unemployment is believed to be running at more than 25 per cent of the 15-million-strong workforce and people queue for hours to buy rations of subsidised necessities.

IRNA said last month the five-year plan envisaged the creation of 43,000 jobs and investment of nearly \$10 billion in heavy industry.

Alviri said in the interview it

would be impossible to implement the five-year plan with the existing standards of management.

Poor management had halted production at many major industrial and agricultural facilities, he said.

Kayhan International described the plan as more ambitious than realistic and said it was difficult to see how Rafsanjani's government could ease the people's suffering.

IRNA said Planning Minister Masoud Zanjani told reporters today that under the five-year plan it was hoped to cut population growth from 3.2 per cent a year now to 3.1 per cent, with an eventual target of 2.3 per cent in 2012.

The success of the whole enterprise depended on cutting the birth rate, Zanjani said.

He envisaged reducing the current budget deficit of about 50 per cent to 4.2 per cent and cutting inflation to nine per cent.

The plan, involving total investment of more than \$345 billion and due to be presented to

parliament soon for final approval, forecast growth of 13.7 per cent in oil revenue and of 21.4 per cent for other revenue.

Zanjani said liquefied gas production should increase to 6.4 billion cubic feet a year from 1.7 billion cubic feet now and power generation would be boosted 8.7 per cent to 20,305 megawatts by 1994.

The plan called for 2,493,000 new housing units, 767,000 of them in rural areas, as well as 9,700 km of roads and about 1,100 km of railways, the minister said.

Iran will use \$3.1 billion in foreign credits this year, Alviri added.

The daily Kayhan quoted Alviri as saying the budget for the Iranian year which began on March 21 allowed the use of foreign credits for some projects.

Spiritual leader Ali Khamenei and Rafsanjani, both supported some use of foreign credits, prevailing over hardliners like Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi who condemned foreign borrowing as enslaving.

The newspaper also said the agreement with the US attorney's office in Manhattan did not require Freeman to co-operate in the government's ongoing investigation of insider trading on Wall Street. Such an agreement frees the arbitrator from having to implicate others.

The SEC is the US agency that regulates the nation's securities business, including the financial markets.

Freeman, a 19-year Goldman veteran, was arrested along with Kidder, Peabody and Co. traders Richard Wigton and Timothy Tabor.

The Wall Street Journal repor-

Crude prices float upward

NEW YORK, Aug 19, (UPI): Encountering little resistance in light trading, crude oil prices floated upward on the New York Mercantile Exchange yesterday while gasoline jumped on news a fire had disabled a large Venezuelan refinery.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, West Texas Intermediate — the benchmark US crude for September delivery — gained 12 cents to close at \$18.80 a barrel, its high for the day.

The rise late in the day may be due to Tuesday being the last day of trading in September contracts and the price being bid up by refiners needing oil.

October crude, which becomes the current-delivery contract Wednesday, gained 4 cents to end the day at \$18.43 a barrel.

Volume was an estimated 42,214 contracts. Continuing a string of recent trading sessions way below the Merc yearly average of 90,000, only broken in Thursday's selloff when 94,948 contracts were traded.

Unleaded gasoline jumped 0.38 cent to settle at \$2.73 cents a gallon, well below its high for the day of \$3.20 cents.

The only reason gasoline prices rose was a fire in a large Venezuelan refinery that produces about 70,000 barrels daily, said Pete Simonelli of New York's Balfour MacLaine Futures Inc.

"It was kind of surprising the gas didn't rise more as a result of the problems in Venezuela," said James Fielder, vice-president of EDF Man International Futures in New York.

Otherwise Friday was "little bit of a breather" from Thursday's heavy trading when sellers returned in force to drive prices down after WTI failed to stay above the \$19-a-barrel level, Fielder said.

"It's hard to say where we go from here," said Simonelli, who had forecast the Thursday selloff of crude.

It appears WTI will keep bouncing between the low \$18 range and a high of around \$19.15, he said, unless something happens to move prices.

Guidelines for air taxi operations

NEW DELHI, Aug 19: The government last week issued comprehensive guidelines for air taxi operation in the country under which any individual or a group of individuals of Indian nationality including non-resident Indians or public sector undertakings are eligible for the certificate, reports Economic Times.

The operations have been approved through 55 civil and defence airfields, according to an official release.

Under the guidelines, aircraft with a seating capacity of less than 50 could be used for the purpose and import of aircraft would be permissible only by non-resident Indians.

The operators should register themselves with the director general of civil aviation (DGCA) and maintain current liability insurance coverage in compliance with the requirements set forth by the DGCA.

The guidelines state that air taxi will be a non-scheduled charter service and both single and twin engine fixed wing aircraft and helicopters may be used for the purpose.



President Mubarak
Cuban minister meets Mubarak

Debt under review

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt, Aug 19, (Reuters): Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca met President Hosni Mubarak yesterday for talks on co-ordinating developing world policy on foreign debt.

Malmierca told reporters their talks covered "the necessity of co-ordinating our stands among the developing countries for the purpose of finding a solution to the problem of the external debt."

He said his talks with Mubarak, who became chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in July, stressed the need for an international effort to settle the debt problem.

Egypt, with a total foreign debt estimated at \$50 billion will host an international symposium on African debt later this month.

A three-day seminar on African debt, scheduled to be held in Cairo on August 28-30, will be presided over by Mubarak.

The "international seminar on Africa's common position on the continent's external debt crisis," aims at making an independent and objective analysis of the effectiveness of measures so far taken or proposed to deal with the debt crisis, especially in light of the evolution of African economies.

It will also focus on a detailed review of the impact of measures taken or proposed by African countries in striving to relieve the continent's foreign debt, which stands at a total of \$230 billion.

Future courses of action, taking into account the proposal contained in the African common position, together with prospects for long-term development and growth, will also be discussed.

The seminar is being organised by the OAU in conjunction with the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Co-operation of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank, the African Centre for Monitoring Studies.

Experts from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, Arab Financing Institutions and the OPEC Fund for International Development, will also attend.

Meanwhile, Minister of the Labour Force and Training in Egypt Dr Assem Abdel Haq said the number of unemployed Egyptians is no more than 800,000 persons.

In a statement to KUNA Dr Abdel Haq dismissed as false and inaccurate reports which put the number of unemployed in Egypt at more than two millions.

Kuwait market indices edge higher

Dealers keen to buy bank shares

THE Alshail Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 38.78 points with a slight increase of 0.66 point — 1.73 per cent — over last week's average.

The Alshail Index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 68.50 with a decrease of 0.21 point — 0.31 per cent — for the same period, according to Alshail weekly market report.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 19.26 million shares at a daily average of 3.85 million shares with an increase of 270 per cent over the previous week's daily average of 1.04 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 4.25 million shares at a daily average of 0.850 million shares with an increase of 309 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.208 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD10.060 million at a daily average of KD2.01 million, an increase of 474 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.35 million.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.023 million, an increase of 229 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.007 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector came first at 70 per cent of total trading against 47 per cent last week.

The National Bank of Kuwait led at 49 per cent followed by The Commercial Bank at 16 per cent and Burgan Bank at 13 per cent. The investment sector came second at 16 per cent in which Kuwait Investment Projects company had the lead at 79 per cent followed by National Investments Company at 18 per cent and Kuwait Investment Company at 3 per cent.

The services sector came third at 7 per cent in which Mobile Telephone Systems Company had the lead at 78 per cent followed by Public Warehousing Company at 19 per cent and Commercial Markets Company at 3 per cent.

As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Umm Al Quain Cement Company had the lead at 68 per cent followed by Bahrain and Middle East Bank at 17 per cent and Arabian General Investment Company (SHUAA) 14 per cent.

The market showed signs of active performance — contrary to last week, which was reflected on most indices in both Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti markets.

Market dealers are still tending to concentrate on buying shares of the banking sector and more specifically

shares of the National Bank of Kuwait in order to minimise their risk which comes as a result to either good performance of the companies or to government intervention.

The current activity does not seem to have any other explanation than the occurrence of such intervals of active performance (reflected by moderate comparative levels) after a period of slow activity or the early start of the fall season which is expected to witness few intervals of active performance and could lead to some gains when shares are resold.

"We cannot decide if this market activity is a result of the actual performance of the listed companies as many of these companies have not yet declared their mid-year financial statements and the banking sector which is the most important sector does not submit mid-year statements."

In any case, some time has to elapse (two weeks to one month) in order to allow market indices to reach certain levels of performance, and then decide if this period could be considered as one of the expected intervals of high activity.

Kuwaiti shareholding companies index

	Wed. 18/08/89	Wed. 09/08/89	Change points
Banking Sector			
The National Bank	116.94	113.50	3.44
The Gulf Bank	32.36	31.48	0.89
The Commercial Bank	24.15	23.27	0.88
Al Ahli Bank	29.77	29.77	—
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	31.44	30.97	0.47
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	28.71	28.29	0.43
Burgan Bank	27.58	26.53	1.04
Kuwait Finance House	78.27	77.45	0.82
Sector Index	47.46	46.27	1.19
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	13.77	14.69	-0.92
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	11.00	11.00	—
IFA	48.90	48.90	—
Commercial Facilities	118.25	118.25	—
National Investments	62.75	63.73	-0.98
Kuwait Investment Proj.	94.38	88.76	5.62
Sector Index	31.71	31.82	-0.11
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	35.88	35.88	—
Gulf Insurance Co.	24.62	24.62	—

Al Ahleia Insurance Co. 48.80 48.80 —
Warba Insurance Co. 54.98 54.98 —
Sector Index 36.05 36.05 —

Real Estate Sector
Kuwait Real Estate 16.57 16.57 —
United Realty 5.60 5.60 —
National Real Estate 35.83 35.83 —
Pearl of Kuwait 72.22 71.43 0.79

Sector Index 16.68 16.63 0.05
Industrial Sector
Kuwait Cement Co. 11.59 11.59 —
Refrigeration Indust. 79.06 79.06 —
Gulf Cables 112.00 110.87 1.13

Kuwait Pharmaceutical 73.78 73.78 —
Sector Index 30.11 29.98 0.13
Services Sector
Kuwait Computer Co. 115.52 155.52 —
Kuwait Cinema Co. 8.56 8.56 —
Public Warehousing Co. 69.70 69.70 —

Kuwait Comm. 36.83 36.83 —
Markets Co. 285.71 280.95 4.76
Mobile Telephone Syst. 55.09 54.80 0.49
Food Sector
Livestock Trad. & Transp. 30.51 30.51 —
United Fisheries 10.62 10.62 —
Kuwait United Poultry 84.34 84.34 —
Kuwait Food Co. 68.97 68.97 —
Sector Index 36.18 36.18 —
Overall Index 38.78 38.12 0.66

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index
Wed. 16/08/89 Wed. 09/08/89 Change points

First Gulf Bank	223.68	223.68	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	88.28	89.66	-1.38
Bahrain M. East Bank	89.22	89.22	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	78.10	78.10	—
Arabian Gen. Inv. (SHUAA)	44.70	44.70	—
Umm Al Quain Cement	15.38	14.25	1.13
Gulf Medical Projects	21.78	21.78	—
Total Index	68.50	68.70	-0.21

—Base period 31/12/1983.
—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

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- Technical know-how and equity participation by SNIA BPD, a world leader in Acrylic Fibre and member of the famous FIAT Group of Italy
- Promoted by Jain Group, under the stewardship of Mr. Mukesh Jain, a technocrat
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Consumer prices down

Fears of inflation, recession ease

NEW YORK, Aug. 19, (UPI): Good economic news was balanced this week by the industry turmoil of oil-spill suits against Exxon, a phone strike, an attempt to take over UAL, a selloff of integrated resources, and a Wall Street insider trading guilty plea.

Fears of inflation and recession were eased yesterday when the Labour Department reported consumer prices were down from high levels earlier this year, growing a seasonally adjusted 0.2 per cent in July, the same as in June.

The moderate rise in the consumer price index brings overall inflation for this year down to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.5 per cent.

Along with last week's report that wholesale prices dropped for the second consecutive month, the news provides reassurance that inflation will not spiral out of control in the near future.

It could open the way for the Federal Reserve to ease monetary policy to fuel more economic growth and head off any threat of a recession.

There also was good news from Washington on Thursday when the Commerce Department reported exports and sharply lower imports drove the nation's trade deficit down nearly \$2 billion in June

to \$8.17 billion, the lowest monthly shortfall in four years.

Some economists hailed the figure, which was \$1 billion lower than expected. But others were cautious, noting the trade shortfall with other countries for the first six months is \$54.3 billion, only marginally lower than the \$60.16 billion deficit run up in the first half of 1988.

On Wednesday, recession fears were further dampened when the Fed's index of industrial production rose 0.2 per cent in July even though auto output plummeted.

The Commerce Department also reported July housing starts grew 0.8 per cent, a sign that lower mortgage interest rates may be having their effect.

The markets, however, remained sceptical, with sluggish trading in both stocks and bonds.

There had been gains in both markets in recent weeks following the steady decline in interest rates since early June.

Analysts said investors still believe inflationary pressures might be too strong for the Fed to further relax monetary policy anytime soon.

On Tuesday, President Bush nominated Richard Breeden, a White House aide, to be the new chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The nomination may run into some trouble on Capitol Hill where there is scepticism Breeden has sufficient experience to oversee the markets, just now recovering from the October 1987 crash and the insider-trading scandal.

As part of the government's insider-trading investigation, attorneys for Robert Freeman said Thursday the former head of arbitrage at Goldman, Sachs and Co. will plead guilty to a single count of mail fraud in a plea agreement.

Tuesday began a bad week for the world's largest oil company as Alaska sued Exxon Corp. and six other major oil companies, accusing them of "conscious, deliberate" negligence in causing America's worst oil spill March 24.

If Alaska can prove the negligence caused the spill and stood in the way of a speedy cleanup, it could collect \$100 million in addition to unspecified damages.

On Thursday, three conservation organisations went into court to demand Exxon put up money for a multibillion-dollar trust fund to restore the Alaska lands and waters defiled by the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Yesterday, the representative of a group of Congressmen said they will prod the

Bush administration to sue Exxon for compensation for damage from the Alaska oil spill.

Some 140 individual civil suits have been filed against Exxon in state and federal courts in Anchorage. In addition, the company is the subject of a federal criminal probe.

Yesterday, Texas mogul Robert Bass and a group including British Airways reportedly emerged as potential bidders for Chicago's UAL Corp., the target of a \$6.2 billion takeover offer from Los Angeles investor Marvin Davis.

UAL directors met Thursday to consider Davis' decision to sweeten his bid for the parent of United Airlines to \$275 a share in a deal worth \$6.2 billion, from \$240 a share, or \$5.4 billion.

On Tuesday, Integrated Resources Inc. said it lost \$600 million in the second quarter and would try to sell off its nationwide network of 4,500 insurance and financial services salesmen to help pay debts currently estimated at \$1.75 billion.

The offer of its "core businesses" is integrated's latest attempt to recover from a financial tailspin begun in last 2 1/2 years as the company was forced by tax reforms to move away from its former main business of selling tax shelters.

Prices set to stabilise

Inflation lower at 10pc

Rice exports may dip

KARACHI, Aug. 19: Shipments of rice out of Pakistan have increased since the first quarter of 1989 but with a relatively smaller government procurement, exports by the Rice Export Corporation of Pakistan (RECP) in 1989 may fall slightly below those of 1988, according to Dawn.

This has been stated in the latest report of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Prices of rice with large proportions of broken, although higher than a year ago have been relatively stable in the recent months, but the higher prices of such rice of Thai and Pakistan origin were offset by lower prices of similar qualities from Vietnam.

International rice price movements in the coming months will be highly influenced by crop developments and by the performance of the monsoon season, the report said.

FAO's forecast of global rice trade in 1989 has been revised up by 3 per cent to 12.2 million tons, which would be the highest level since 1981. The revision largely reflects higher forecasts of import demand in Asia and exports from Thailand, the United States and Vietnam.

On imports, the main market development in Asia since last month is Bangladesh's purchase of 200,000 tons of Thai parboiled rice. Imports into the Near East, especially Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran, have also risen sharply. As a result, Asia's imports in 1989 are currently expected to reach 6.5 million tons, 20 per cent more than last year.

By contrast, Africa's import of rice have, so far, been relatively small although higher than during the same period a year ago. However with the recent increase in sales of P.L. 480 rice and with increased shipments from Vietnam to a number of African countries, African imports may recover slightly later in the year. Imports into South America are forecast at 500,000 tons, slightly higher than in 1988, largely because of increased imports into Ecuador and Venezuela.

FAO's preliminary forecast of world paddy production in 1989 remains unchanged at just below 500 million tons, about 2 per cent higher than the record volume produced last year. This highly tentative forecast for 1989 is based on estimates of crops already harvested in some countries and on condition of crops on the ground.

It assumes that the 1989 southwest monsoon in Asia will be normal and that production targets and measures adopted by major producing countries to raise output will be achieved, the report said.

over July 1987 was as high as 11.41 per cent. The wholesale price index increased by 2.02 per cent during July 1989. The annual rate of increase in the index over the 12 months period, that is, July 1988 over July 1988, was 8.53 per cent.

Turkey to renew oil deal with Iran

ANKARA, Aug. 19, (Reuters): Turkey agreed yesterday to renew oil purchases from Iran, ending an eight-month disruption in bilateral trade, Turkey's state refiner Tupras said.

Tupras general manager Mehmet Savran told Reuters the five-million tonne, one-year deal with a \$550-600 million countertrade element would go into effect on September 1.

A one dollar per barrel countertrade premium paid by Turkey would be reduced to 60-75 cents and market prices would now be pegged to Brent, not Dubai and Oman crudes as before.

Turkey took some crude oil from Iran in 1989, held over from last year's deal, but the 526,400 tonnes taken in January-April 1989 were down from 1.66 million tonnes in the 1988 period.

As four rounds of talks were held to solve the 1989 oil contract pricing dispute, bilateral trade fell to \$319 million in January-April 1989 from 369 million the year before.

Iran exported 5.4 million tonnes of crude to Turkey last year, its second biggest supplier after Iraq. Total Turkish imports were 21.9 million tonnes.

Meanwhile, Turkey's embattled treasury, preparing for looming financial problems, may soon revive a kind of non-maturing bond last seen in Ottoman times.

A government official said today the bond, paying an annualised 25 per cent interest, would be redeemable at any time by the bearer. No further details were available.

Such non-maturing bonds were the first paper currency in the Ottoman Empire, issued in the 1850s to pay for the Crimean war, and were a factor in its ultimate financial collapse.

"Non-maturing bonds will make a second-class domestic currency," said the official, who preferred anonymity.

Domestic currency circulation peaked at a record 8.3 trillion lira (\$3.8 billion) on August 15, up 85.3 per cent from end-1988, after Prime Minister Turgut Ozal doubled public sector salaries in May and June.

Inflation has surged to 72.4 per cent in the 12 months to end-July, its highest since February. Bankers expect a big overrun on Ozal's 60 per cent inflation forecast until the end of this year.

The treasury, striving to drain excess cash from the economy, set its first one-month bill auction on August 15 when it borrowed nearly half a trillion lira at the shortest maturity it has ever used.

"Let no one be stunned if the treasury soon starts selling T-bills with a six-hour maturity," said one senior Istanbul banker who asked not to be named.

The 1989 budget deficit is also showing signs of strain, jumping to 1.438 billion lira (\$653.6 million) in the seven months to end-July from 900 billion lira (\$409.1 million) to end-June.

Bankers and officials are warning that relying heavily on short-term domestic borrowing is dangerous at a time interest rates are already climbing alarmingly fast.

Average annual yield of 54.84 per cent on the new one-month bills was the highest interest rate at which the treasury has borrowed this year, and compares with one-month bank deposit rates of around 42 per cent currently.

Gulf pledges financial aid to Amman: Shaker

Kuwait to invite bank chiefs to agree on the size of deposit

AMMAN, Jordan, Aug. 19, (Agencies): Several Gulf countries have pledged to deposit money with Jordan's Central Bank to help the kingdom overcome its financial difficulties, Jordan's Prime Minister Zeid Bin Shaker announced yesterday.

The announcement was a further boost to Jordan's battered currency.

"Kuwait will invite managers of Gulf states' central banks to agree on a (sum to) deposit with the Central Bank of Jordan to help us build our (foreign currency) reserves and stabilise the value of the dinar," Bin Shaker said in an interview over state-run Jordan television.

The prime minister said Jordan's reserves of foreign currency now exceed \$400 million, a marked improvement over "very limited Central Bank reserves" before April.

Official figures put reserves at less than \$200 million, but foreign analysts using different accounting methods said Jordan's net reserves actually dipped into deficit.

The currency began its rise this month when King Hussein returned from the Arabian peninsula with pledges of \$200 million in grants from Saudi Arabia, \$70 million from the United Arab Emirates and promises of more

help from other Gulf states.

The money will help Jordan cover a gap in its balance of payments as it enacts an austerity programme agreed upon with the International Monetary Fund.

The programmes was a prerequisite for rescheduling most of Jordan's \$8.3-billion foreign debt. The country has reached agreement in principle to shift most of the debt five to 10 years into the future.

Bin Shaker praised Arab efforts to help Jordan tackle its economic problems and said recent Arab aid payments were "very valuable and we highly appreciate them."

"King Hussein's relations with brotherly Arab leaderships and friendly international countries will help Jordan overcome its economic crisis," Bin Shaker said.

He urged Jordanians to control their spending and "live within the limits of our abilities" noting that foreign donations "would not last forever."

The government is trying to encourage export industries and to reduce imports in hopes of closing a chronic balance of trade deficit.

Meanwhile, the Jordanian dinar firmed again against the dollar on the free market today after the Central Bank said it

would supply banks with cheap dollars.

The Central Bank set the dinar's official price at 597.3/603.3 fils to the dollar, slightly down from 594.0/602.0 on Thursday, but dealers said banks were trading the local unit at 710/735 fils to the dollar, up from Thursday's 720/760.

The Central Bank informed banks yesterday that it would sell them dollars at 730 fils, to be resold at no more than 735.

This was the third time the Central Bank has intervened to sell dollars since the beginning of August, when the dinar had slumped to 940 fils to the dollar on the free market.

Bankers attribute the dinar's recovery over the past two weeks to the arrival of substantial Arab aid. Officials say this has helped to boost hard currency reserves to \$400 million from only 20 million a few months ago.

The bankers said the Central Bank had also begun buying dollars from local banks, which have accumulated surpluses over the past week as Jordanians began dumping dollars for dinars, for the first time in more than nine months.

"The Central Bank has bought more than \$50 million that have piled up at commercial banks since last week," one banker

said. "This is a very healthy sign because the Central Bank is now both a buyer and seller of dollars."

Central Bank officials say the present two-tier exchange rate introduced on July 31 is a temporary measure to steady the dinar, curb the black market and encourage Jordanians working abroad to send their dollars home through the banking system.

The official rate applies only to basic food imports, some medicines and the fees of Jordanian students overseas.

Dealers said one sign of renewed confidence in the dinar was that businessmen had now begun to ask banks to settle letters of credit or to open new ones.

The English-language Jordan Times said today the dinar's new strength should reflect positively on the cost of living, braking inflation caused by the higher cost of imports.

"The stoic acceptance of steep increases in prices of goods and services deserves a break now that the principal cause has been rectified to a considerable extent," the newspaper said.

The dinar, which has 1,000 fils, has lost more than one third of its dollar value at official rates and almost half on the free market since October 1988.

Confusing week for Wall Streeters

Fed will not relax credit policy

NEW YORK, Aug. 19, (AP): Signs of economic strength are keeping the stock market in a state of unease and leaving the much-awaited new record high for the Dow Jones industrial average out of reach.

The forecast throughout Wall Street in July was that the Federal Reserve would move more aggressively to ease credit conditions to head off a possible recession.

Revised forecasts now point to the likelihood that the Federal Reserve will not relax its credit policy and that interest rates, which have fallen substantially,

could stabilise.

July statistics on industrial production, homebuilding and retail sales released recently suggested a modest revival in economic activity. Although the upward blips in the data were not extraordinary they were enough to wipe out the two previous months of declines, analysts said.

Views of an economic revival were further substantiated on Friday with the release of July consumer price inflation. The Labour Department's consumer price index rose 0.2 per cent, but excluding the two most volatile components -- food and energy

— the index was up 0.4 per cent.

The report produced mixed reaction among economists as to whether the numbers meant inflation is building or receding and helped add to the market's confusion.

"We do not think the inflation picture is worsening," said economist Cynthia Latta of DRI-McGraw-Hill, a Lexington, Mass., forecasting company. "We believe the situation has stabilised and probably will improve soon."

But economist James Soliway of Argus Research Corp., said taken together the latest

reports do not suggest an easing of inflationary pressures. "The inflation number is not all that good."

The market began the week on a cautious note. Sellers weren't aggressive and buyers refrained from participating, reflecting investor indecision about which way the market would go.

Their unease was compounded by the failure of the Dow Jones industrial average to decisively pierce its all-time high of 2,722.42 reached Aug. 25, 1987, despite flirting with a record breaking rise earlier this month.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 19/08/1989			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
1	Petro Polis	Algh Barwil	4842988
9	Probo Bani	Algh Barwil	4842988
14	Boris Babochkin	Al Rashed	2422026
15	Liao Yang	M. Bahar	2433881
19	F.W. McKinley	GH & Q	4347815
21	Merino Express	GH & Q	4347815
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
19/8	Alqurain	KLTT	2434177
19/8	Rashidiah	GH & Q	4347815
20/8	Hanjin Karachi	Marafi Int'l	2465645
20/8	Shaan	ISA	2425467
20/8	Acacia Ace	Marafi	2465645
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Baffin Bay	RSMS	2423642
6	Lake Star	Algh Barwil	4842988
9	Philippine Sampaguita	Algh Barwil	4842988
12	Puffin Arrow	YASS	4745533
14	Topaz	Algh Barwil	4843988
16	Marjon	Al Kamal	2425437
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
15/8	Liao Yang	M. Bahar	2433881
18/8	City of Beirut	B.B.H.	2433537
18/8	Rize K	RSMS	2423642
16/8	Pearl of Dubai	Steamco	2439973

Compiled by: Alghanim Barwil Shipping Co. WLL, Kuwait, Tel: 4842988/4843988 ext. 3628/3646 Fax No. 4845712, Tlx 22084 Barwil KT Tlx 30694 SLS KT.

Philippines to get new money

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19, (AP): Negotiators representing the Philippines and its major bank creditors have announced an agreement in principle on a debt package, allowing the United States to claim another victory for its programme to reduce Third World debt.

The Philippines will receive new money in addition to a partial reduction in its \$28-billion debt, about half of which is owed to commercial banks, according to Wednesday's announcement.

Both sides said a final agreement would be reached in September.

Last month, Mexico, the developing world's second-largest debtor with \$108 billion in loans, reached an accord with its commercial creditors.

Officials in US President George Bush's government hailed the Philippines pact as evidence that its initiative to reduce the \$1.3-trillion Third World debt was bearing fruit. But private economists said the amount of actual debt reduction was likely to be modest for both the Philippines and Mexico.

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady, who was briefed on the details of the debt plan Wednesday by top Philippine negotiators, on March 10 unveiled the new US approach to Third World debt. The effort seeks to get commercial banks to forgive a portion of the loans they hold in return for guarantees from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank that the reduced debt would be repaid.

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	1.020	1.020	1.020	1.020	1810000	55
GULF BANK	0.365	0.365	0.365	0.365	260000	7
COMMERCIAL BK	0.275	0.275	0.275	0.275	30000	2
ABU BANK	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	30000	3
B.K.M.E	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.335	10000	1
R.E.B.	0.335	0.335	0.335	0.335	10000	1
BURGAM BANK	0.265	0.265	0.265	0.265	130000	4
K.F.HOUSE	0.470	0.470	0.470	0.470	180000	5
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KWT INV. CO.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	---	---
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	0.210	0.210	0.210	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	---	---
COM.FACILITIES	0.430	0.430	0.430	0.430	---	---
AMLIAN INV.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
I.F.A.	0.095	0.095	0.095	0.095	---	---
NATIONAL INV.	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	---	---
KWT PROJECTS	0.084	0.084	0.085	0.084	960000	13
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KWT INSURANCE	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	---	---
AMLIAN INS. CO.	0.480	0.480	0.480	0.480	---	---
WARBA INS. CO.	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	---	---
REAL EST SECTOR						
INV. PEARL KWT	0.091	0.091	0.091	0.091	---	---
KWT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.130	0.130	0.130	0.130	40000	2
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	---	---
WAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	---	---
SALHIA R.E.	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	---	---
KWT R.E.I.CO.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
KAT IND. CO.	0.490	0.490	0.490	0.490	---	---
KWT N.P. IND.	0.310	0.310	0.310	0.310	---	---
KWT CEMENT CO.	0.170	0.170	0.170	0.170	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.360	50000	1
N.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
GULF CABLE	0.990	0.990	0.990	0.990	75000	6
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.166	0.166	0.166	0.166	---	---
CONT. MARINE	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	---	---
K.SH.REP.CO.	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.082	---	---
K.N.C. CO.	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	---	---
KWT HOTELS CO.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.138	---	---
CON.MKT.CMPX.	0.080	0.080	0.080	0.080	---	---
MOBILE TELE.	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.295	40000	3
KWT COMPUTER	0.144	0.144	0.144	0.144	---	---
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	---	---
UNTD FISHERIES	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	---	---
UNTD POULTRY	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.230	---	---
UNTD FOODS	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	---	---
UNTD FOOD PRD.	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	---	---
OTHER SECTOR						
KWT SECTOR	0.064	0.064	0.064	0.064	---	---
N.N.EAST.BK	0.047	0.047	0.047	0.047	---	---
CON. INVEST.	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.082	---	---
G.W. INV. GROUP	0.029	0.029	0.029	0.029	334501	2
CRST. GULF BK	0.850	0.850	0.850	0.850	---	---
N.KUN. GROUP	0.078	0.078	0.078	0.078	---	---
LF MEDICAL	0.034	0.034	0.034	0.034	---	---

KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE

COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
FINANCIAL SECTOR						
ALF INTL INS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
AB INT CO.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
ARJAH INS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
ALF UNION INS	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
K.WHITE CMNT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
MAN CEMENT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
UJJAIRAH CEMT	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	---	---
SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010	---	---
GULF CEMENT	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010	---	---

AMMAN

	OPNG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	2.58	2.58
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.06	2.16
ARAB BANK	184.0	193.3
ARAB CHEMICAL OTER	5.45	5.45
ARAB FINANCIAL CORP.	2.21	2.32
ARAB INSURANCE	1.11	1.11
ARAB INT. INV/TRANS.	0.51	0.51
ARAB INT. UNION INS.	1.11	1.16
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	1.25	1.31
ARAB JOR/INVEST/BK	2.30	2.30
ARAB PAPER CON/TRD	0.45	0.44
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	4.50	4.71
ARAB PHARMA/CHEM	1.89	1.99
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	14.91	14.88
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITNA	1.20	1.20
BELGIUM INSURANCE	0.95	1.00
CATRO AMMAN BANK	29.00	29.00
CONFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.34	0.34
DAR ALMAHA DV/INV.	3.20	3.28
DARCO/INVEST/HOUS.	0.74	0.78
FINANCE/CREDIT/COR	0.75	0.71
GARAGE OWNERS OFF.	4.50	4.50
GENERAL INSURANCE	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.25	1.25
GENERAL MINING.	2.10	2.10
HTHNEH MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND./MATCH JEMCO	1.23	1.29
INDSTR. DEVLPT BNK	1.68	1.64
INDSTR./COMM/AGR.	1.70	1.70
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COM/INVT	0.13	0.13
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.81	0.81
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
TERHEED/PETRI/CH	2.27	2.38
ALTAIR COMPLEX	0.80	0.80
JERUSALIM INS.	1.27	1.27
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.00	19.25
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	2.50	2.50
JOR EAGLE INS.	25.05	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.47	1.47
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.16	1.15
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.18	2.18
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.42	2.52
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83
JOR LIM BRICK	0.12	0.13
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.52	2.54
JOR PAPER CARBONAD	5.00	4.86
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	4.40	4.62
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	2.48	2.44
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	1.72	1.65
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.25
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.28	1.29
JOR SECURITY CORP.	1.12	1.11
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.02	2.09
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	2.86	2.98
JOR WORSTED MIL	5.10	4.85
JOR. KUWAIT AGR	0.85	0.89
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.90	7.90
JOR. FRENCH INS.	2.92	2.94
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	2.30	2.28
JORDANIAN GULF REAL	0.33	0.33
JORDAN DAIRY	1.14	1.16
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.12	1.14
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.95	1.00
JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	2.47	2.35
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.39	1.39
JORDAN TANNING	1.98	2.00

EVENTS

Getting to know the FCC circle

Salvador B. Patungan

"Buddy" to his friends, is the executive director of the popular Filipino Cultural Club. He is at present working as computer and communications engineer at the Ministry of Interior's Data and Processing Centre in Farwaniya, which deals mostly in the installation and maintenance services of modern data communications (computer, telephone, intercom systems). Apart from this, he is likewise experienced worker for a year or so at the Arab Telecom. He is also an electronic communications engineer. He is currently employed at the Arab Telecom. He is currently employed at the Arab Telecom. He is currently employed at the Arab Telecom.



Jun Sta. Maria

As Consultant of FCC, "Jun" has a lot more to offer. A fine arts graduate, major in advertising and editorial design, this guy is a bundle of wit and humour. Presently working with Impact and Echo as a visualizer, he always finds time to mingle with the rest of his friends. From under the sign of Leo, he exonerates the toughness of a lion, yet under certain instances, he is such a sweet irresistible fellow — if you don't unearth his facets further.



Maria Socorro Falacios

"Marie" is the executive secretary of the group. Intelligent and super-impulsive, this girl is presently employed as secretary/assistant of Inter Flag General Trading and Contracting Est. Her impulsiveness and ambitions has given her outright recognition from the masses. She has emerged a quite a number of shows here in Kuwait and is very much involved at the moment with FCC's projects. Righteously outspoken in many ways, she is the emblem of a typical Filipino youth in action.



Dick Okence

Dick is one among the highly renowned intelligible member of the FCC's Board of Advisors. A technical support staff of Kay and Associates Inc.

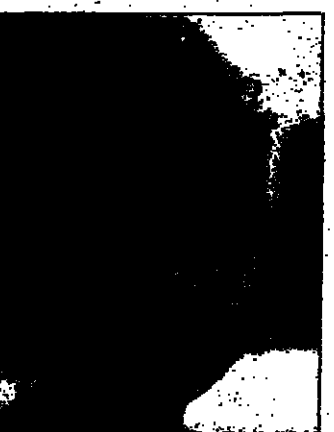


Florence de las Santos

Tita Ganda is the director of financial affairs of FCC. Eloquent, entrancing and kindhearted, no matter how preoccupied she is in building her own empire, she still finds ample time to join this spirited team by FCC. Side from managing Phil Guff Shop and Mabuhay Restaurant, she is now engrossed in expanding her business empire. Watch out for the opening of Samar Grocery in Souk Al Kabir and Mabuhay Beauty Salon (men and women) sometime next month.



An epitome of beauty and ambition, this full-fledged businesswoman has now slowly gained recognition among her Filipino colleagues not because of her candy-coated tongue but simply because she has set a good example to everyone — that if you're only mindless and tasteless in many ways, you will never always come to abundance. Regarded with simplicity and wit, what more could you ask from a woman like her.

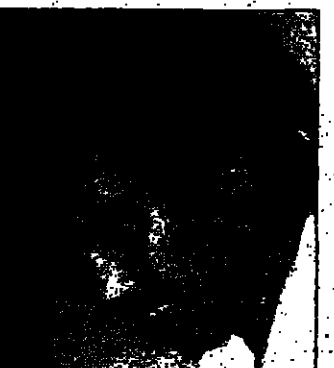


Louella Mendoza

"Weng," who works at Kuwait Plaza Hotel is the executive treasurer of FCC. This pretty vibrant cebuana has captivated many hearts by way of music. She sings thrice a week at the Far East Restaurant and has appeared in many shows as a guest performer. By nature, she is vivacious and carefree, yet otherwise, she can be overly emotional at times.

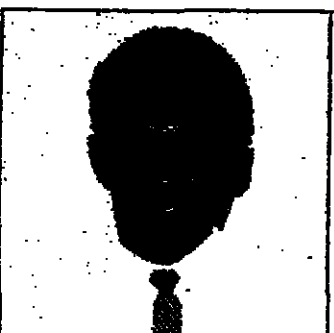
Joey Laurente

One of the founding members of FCC, Joey works as an analyst/consultant at the Sultan Center. A management graduate, he is quite adept with stage directing and playwriting. As a matter of fact, he designed the pantomime mini play entitled "Sisa" of Fiesta Filipiniana, won the hearts of the audience last June 16, 1989.



Lito Matig - A

"Lito" is he is fondly called is the deputy executive director as well as the director on social-cultural affairs of the club. Versatile, intelligent and multi-talented, this widely-known guy is presently working at the sales department of Kuwait Computer Services. An accounting graduate of Far Eastern University (Manila), he is quite an enigma when it comes to his dancing prowess. So far, he has had an array of experiences, from tour guiding till the present.



A proficient conversationalist, he is likewise an efficient listener. During rehearsals, when not in the mood, he can be tough as a lion, but deep down he is a sentimentalist. He has all praises for the performers of the recently-included successful "Fiesta Filipiniana," who willingly tried their best to have a taste of stardom.

Ma Suzette E Vasallo

This tenacious guest relations officer of Le Meridien Hotel is the directress on media affairs and public relations of FCC. Outspoken and "going with the flow," this petite lass from Cebu has natural flair for writing and has quite a number of talents to boast about. Her endearing smile and sincere words has won her countless friends. Aside from her fluent English, she also speaks, reads and writes in Japanese which is an asset to her job at present.



There are friends, you now have a glimpse of who's who in the FCC circle, vibrant, dedicated people, ever willing to offer the best to Filipino community. Wholesome entertainment? Unique and innovative? Move ahead with these group of people — FCC always is for you.

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

- 0000 Newsdesk
- 30 Composer of the Month (ex 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream)
- 0100 News Summary (ex 23rd) followed by Play of the Week: 2nd and 9th Body and Soul; 16th A Pair of Spectacles; 23rd A Midsummer Night's Dream Contd.
- 0200 World News
- 09 British Press Review
- 15 The Girl in His Past (ex 2nd The Picture of Dorian Gray)
- 30 The Ken Bruce Show
- 0300 World News
- 09 News About Britain
- 15 From Our Own Correspondent
- 30 Screenplay
- 0400 Newsdesk
- 30 Sing Gospel
- 45 Wordheries
- 0500 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 Financial Review
- 45 Words of Faith
- 45 Letter from America
- 0600 Newsdesk
- 30 Jazz for the Asking
- 0700 World News
- 09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
- 30 From Our Own Correspondent
- 45 Book Choice
- 50 Waveguide
- 0800 World News
- 09 Words of Faith
- 15 The Pleasure of Yours

CINEMA

- Al Andalus
- Red Scorpion
- Al Sahiya
- Arabic Film
- Al Hama
- Arabic Film
- Drive-In
- Arabic Film
- Al Firdous
- Jaani Dushman
- Fahadhel Open-Air
- Khatroan Ke Khiladi
- Al Fahadhel
- Devil's Thrice
- Al Jahra
- Dil Aur Deewar
- Granada
- Mardagni
- Al Solahikhat
- Amazonas and Superman
- Al Jebel
- Isabella
- Ahmedi Drive-in
- Arabic film

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Sat - Wed, 8 - 9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts; ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm; Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddles, bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

SOCIAL

Kapilku contest
AUGUST 25: Kapilku will hold the Little Mr and Ms Philippines, Kuwait, contest at Showbiz Pizza place, Salmiya. This coincides with Arayung Mga Bata (Children's Day). For details contact Jojo Medrano, AVP, welfare and special projects, VCP Rosale Austria or VP Sarah Macarimbang — Tel: 483447.

Kalpak exhibition
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Arts and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316737/5626620.

Breeze '89
OCT 26: Tivim Centre's Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casimiro or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/67 after 3.30 pm.

Fiesta Filipiniana
UNDER the auspices of the Philippine embassy here in Kuwait, the Filipino Cultural Club, under the competent

leadership of Buddy Patungan, proudly announces to its clamouring fans the comeback of "Fiesta Filipiniana '89" with the original cast at its original venue — where else, but at the spacious elegantly-lit Al Jahra Ballroom of the Meridien Hotel. Play day is set on Friday Sept 8, 1989, 4 to 7 pm.

For more particulars and ticket reservations, contact Florence — 2436121 or 2439451.

Colva Nite
OCT 19: Annual Colva Nite at New Ball Room of Ramadha Al Salem Hotel. Top Ranks in attendance. For details contact tel: 2413884/2434776/562914-1/4310913 after 5 pm.

Star Nite
DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dir'a' with Perfect Strangers music. Children entry KD.3/- from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Others KD.4/- with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tele. (res) 5331949 or 2413706 pm only.

Flaskik's contest
FINAL preparations are now under way for the ultimate singing contest in Kuwait held for the Filipino population in this Gulf state.

Flaskik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias announced that auditions are held at the Far East Restaurant on Fridays, August 18 and 25 and 11 am and 4 pm and on Sundays August 13, 20 and 27 at 5 pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4 pm, at the Meridien Hotel.

For more particulars, kindly contact the following Flaskik officers: Chary Nepomuceno Tel. 5624509, Rose Formantes: 4843601, Malon Tadena: 4881358, Esther Madamba: 5312700 ext. 4221, Marilyn Inductivo: 3940600 ext. 2230 & 4521 and other Flaskik officers or the event vice-chairman Al Castro of Martin Marietta Data Systems.

HOTELS

At the Kuwait International
LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

Failaka: Rooftop restaurant
overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Friday. Ext. 8012.

Garden Pool: Relax and enjoy
our poolside barbeque event every Friday afternoon. La Patisserie: Offers an extensive selection of pastries, oven fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings.

At the SAS hotel
AL GHAZER: SAS hotel's very own handicrafted show. Available for half day or whole day trip along the Gulf coastline. Food, beverages and fishing tackle provided on board. For booking, call 5657000 ext 416.

AL BOOM: Dine on charcoal
grilled foods and finish off with della coffee. Open for dinner daily, lunch every Thursdays and Friday and for reservation call 5657000 ext 403 or 540.

PEACOCK ROOM: Chinese
specialties served in a very cozy atmosphere. Open for lunch and dinner. For reservation, call 5657000 ext 403 or 532.

EEDAM: Wide varieties of delectable
home-made goodies, freshly baked items to choose from. Eedam daily specials also available.

CLOCK: Only drive-in
restaurant in Kuwait. Serves wide selections of fast food including our very own specialties.

SOCIAL

At the Pullman Hotel
AL Shalla coffee shop: Offers daily businessman's lunch "autour d'un plat" at a reasonable price. Serves Arabic and international dishes. Live music nightly from 7:30 pm.

Les Elysees Restaurant:
Experience the ambience of French seating and meticulous service while savouring authentic French food offered on our "menu degustation," a four course meal served with a touch of nouvelle cuisine. For reservations, call: 5634200

At the Holiday Inn
AT the coffee shop: A variety of continental and oriental cuisine to suit everyone's taste for lunch or dinner at KD.500 per pax and half price for children.

Al Andalus: Thursday
Arabian night. Savour the exotic food especially prepared for the night. Our local entertainers provide wonderful music.

Family brunch: Friday
a wholesome day for the children. Bring along your kid and enjoy entertainment from Walt Disney cartoon characters and magic by the great magician. Prizes and surprises awaits each kid. Price KD.5.000 for adults, and half per kid.

At the swimming pool: From 8:30 pm
have a great night out by the pool to soothe the summer heat. Barbecue, music, games, prizes and surprises awaits each one. Bring your family 'n friends 'n savour our delicious Sharazad barbecue, at KD.5.500 per pax and KD.2.750 per child.

At the Messilah Beach

Al-Mubarakiah: The only 24
hour restaurant in Kuwait, offers a full spectrum of local and continental specialties with daily buffet for breakfast, lunch and dinner plus a la carte menu.

Al-Jawharah Super Night Club
- live entertainment by the resident "Rainbow" band with extensive a la carte menu on Wednesdays and special buffet on Thursdays.

Al Berdwanah beach garden
restaurant open daily Sunday to Friday offering a variety of succulent charcoal grills, Lebanese mezza, freshly baked markouk bread and hubble bubble.

SPORTS

I.A.C. badminton

SEPT 7: I.A.C. is organising a badminton tournament open to "All Indians in Kuwait."

All those wishing to participate are requested to contact the organising committee for further information and entry forms. Contact: I.A.C. office Tel: 3904817 (6.00 pm to 10.30 pm); P.K. Koshy 3982578 or 3913476; Vijay Samuel 2401534 or 2644863; Philip Cherian 4741946 or 4330041.

Fit for life

LADIES' Keep Fit classes
at La Palma Fitness Centre at the Kuwait International on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Free use of the pool after each session plus free use of the sauna on Tuesdays. Also judo, karate and taekwondo classes. Individual coaching for tennis and swimming available. Garden poolside barbeque every Friday afternoon. Recreation facilities include bowling, snooker and health club with sauna, steam bath and plunge pool. Telephone Paul or Vivienne at: 2530000/8050.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES



A scene from Bestseller, 'Robert F. Kennedy and His Times' on KTV2 at 10.30 pm today.

NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait
- Al Jahra Pharmacy
- Fahd Al Salem Street, Al Awwaf Building
- Ebin Rashed Pharmacy
- Dosai Souq, Kuwait Souq Building
- Hawalli and Nugra
- Al Firdous Pharmacy
- Nugra, Beirut Street, Opp to Hawalli Governorate
- Salmiya and Rumaithiya
- Al Markaziya Pharmacy
- Amro Bin Al As Street, Al Asfour Building
- Fahadhel and Ahmadi
- Al Badiya Pharmacy
- Fahadhel, Al Daboos Street, Mohammed Al Jaseem Al Daboos Building
- Jeeb Al Shoyoukh
- Al Salama Pharmacy
- Main Street, Block 2
- Jahra
- Al Najah Pharmacy
- Fourth Area, Plot 48, Bader Al Somait Company

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.55 am
Zuhr	11.51
Asr	3.27 pm
Maghreb	6.23
Isha	7.45

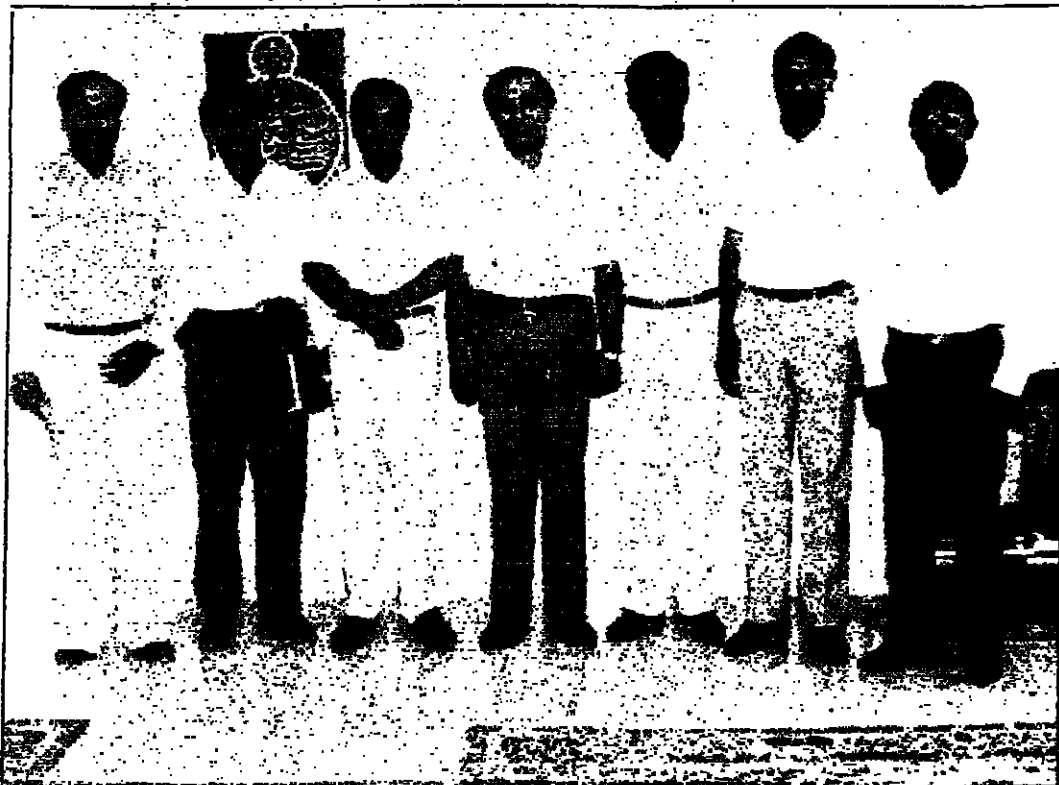
Flaskik Voice of the 90s

FLASSIK's voice of the 90's calling all those with sultry voices: Final auditions for the contestants vying for places in the ultimate singing contest will take place on Sunday, August 27, at 5 pm at the Far East Restaurant, Salmiya Complex, Fahd Al Salem Street.

All qualified contestants in the previous screenings are requested to bring their music tapes for their participating entries.

Flaskik president Grace Fe Covarrubias said that all participants will receive tokens from generous sponsors during the contest on Friday, September 1, at Meridien Hotel at 4.30 pm. Major prizes include trophies and cash awards.

For additional details, kindly contact the contest chairperson: Chary Nepomuceno — Tel. 5624509; Rose Formantes — Tel. 4843601; Marilyn Inductivo — Tel. 3940600 ext 4521 & 2230; RC Ruiz — 4849400 ext 298; Malon Tadena — 4881358 and other Flaskik officers.



Bangladesh library committee members met the ambassador of Bangladesh, K.M. Shehabuddin at his office to discuss the operational policies of the library. Picture shows (from right to left) Mohammed Mominul Haque, Dr M. Shahjahan, A.S. Tajul Hassan, the ambassador, Moazzuddin Ahmed, Mohammed Yakoub Malik and Khondakar Abdul Hannan.

A comfy life means P3,500 monthly

By Roy S. De Guzman

FILIPINO families must raise more than P40,000 a year — or about P3,500 a month on the average — to be able to live comfortably. To go up the social ladder and be considered rich, a family's annual income should exceed P250,000.

Unfortunately, only three out of 10 families earn P250,000 which makes them part of the so-called middle and upper classes of society. A local daily found these out after examining the results of a recent government survey.

The remaining 70 per cent of the estimated 10 million families in the country are either hard-up, surviving with their minimal savings, or end up mired in debt due to high living costs.

Earlier, the National Statistics Office presented to Malacanang the 1988 Family Income and Expenditure Survey, which showed that the average Filipino family now earns and saves more than during the reign of Ferdinand Marcos.

According to the survey, the average annual family income in the Philippines rose to P39,728 last year from P31,052 in 1985. Despite the equal rise in spending, the survey noted that the average savings

of a family rose to P7,500 in 1988, the third year of President Aquino's term.

Upon scrutiny, however, the daily learned that the plight of the poor has remained unchanged during the three-year period.

It was observed that the relative growth in family earnings was due to the big share in income distribution of families belonging to the upper and upper-middle classes.

Families in these two groups earn over 40,000 a year. They comprise only about 30 per cent of the population have managed to corner 63 per cent of the P423.7 billion total national income in 1988.

Some 20,000 families with an annual income exceeding P500,000 are considered the richest of the rich. The average income of those in this group is P732,000 annually, while their savings reach up to P415,000 a year.

Ironically, there were no changes in income stature from Marcos' time to the present for the poorest 20 per cent of the population.

Those earning less than P15,000 a year, or P1,250 monthly, are left in the bottom of the income bracket. About 8,000 of these

families get only P93 monthly, although they settle outside Metro Manila.

Unable to keep pace with the rising costs of living, these poor families end up with debts ranging from P4,800 to P120 each year.

During Marcos' term, this was also true: families unable to raise more than P15,000 annually end up reporting negative income by the end of the year.

Although fewer people are poorer today, the change was also hardly significant as half of family lies in the Philippines—49.5 per cent today as compared to the 59 per cent during Marcos' time—remain below the poverty level.

The majority of Filipino families, 47.8 per cent, are hard-up, left with minimal savings by year-end. With incomes ranging from P15,000 to P39,000 a year, those in this group can be classified as those in the lower middle-class.

The average income of those in this group range from P48,000 to 140,000 a year, with annual savings reaching a minimum of P8,000 to a maximum of P40,000.

President Aquino had underscored in her State-of-the-Nation address last month the need for law-makers to look

into the plight of those in the lowest 30 per cent of the income bracket who "are still mired in poverty."

NSO administrator Tomas Africa said he had explained to economic experts that despite the increase in income of poor families, much more need to be done to alleviate them from poverty.

Africa said he thinks there is a need for those in the lower classes to acquire capital assets as land. He said the land reform programme of the government will surely boost the poor's income.

The survey showed that like in the past, the average family today is composed for six members.

Families with eight or more members registered a decline from 1985 statistics, accounting for merely 15 per cent, and so did single-person families and couples, down to 10 per cent.

Food accounted for half of the family budget, with expenses averaging P2,684.50 a month for each family.

Rental payment for dwelling units comes up second, 11.9 per cent. The families' expenses on tobacco and alcoholic beverages also rose during the three year period.

5 females pass CAFGU

By F.E.B. Zamora

MAGDALENA, Laguna: In this rebel-infested town, some women have become as familiar with guns as with babies.

"Sana Armalite, mas magaling," said grandmother Edita Oresa, 43, while holding a carbine. Dark and hefty, Oresa carried with ease a military backpack issued to her as graduate of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit (CAFGU) training.

Cirila Angcahan, 29, and Evelyn Zoleta, 28, sported bright-red fingernails with matching red lipstick. But their blush-on and eyeshadows were soon smudged by sweat after long hours under the sun.

Oresa, Angcahan and Zoleta graduated from a 45-day training as members of the CAFGU. With Teresita Loraña, 36, and Leticia Patron, 40, they form the first women members of the CAFGU. They were among 86 trainees in the batch.

CAFGU members are community-based volunteers trained by the Armed Forces to complement its counter-insurgency operations.

They are tasked specifically to "hold the area" or make sure no infiltration takes place after it has been "cleared" by the military.

"The law says able-bodied citizens — it never said only the men — can join the CAFGU," said Brig. Gen. Thelmo Cunanan, commander of the 202nd Brigade.

The women CAFGUs were trained by the 16th Infantry Battalion, a unit under Cunanan's brigade.

CAFGU members do not receive salaries, but are provided with P18 subsistence allowance and free uniforms, including boots, towels, linen and pon-

chos. They are also issued carbines for their use.

"I want to help the people," said Zoleta.

"I joined the CAFGU because this is for the good of the people," added her best friend, Angcahan.

Ironically, Angcahan is a young widow who had joined the New People's Army as community organizer and member of the sandatahang unit propaganda.

She surrendered early this year, but retained her nom de guerre Ka Lilay. A stocky dark-skinned woman, soldiers and fellow CAFGU members said Ka Lilay has the "porma ng amason." She has four children.

"I'm not afraid," she said in the vernacular. Her former comrades, she said, had advised her not to join the CAFGU. But Ka Lilay merely raised an eyebrow.

"Eh, kung noong illegal ako hindi ako natatakot, ngayon pang legal na ako?" she told the inquirer.

Also a surrenderer, Oresa had to face her husband who strongly opposed her CAFGU training. "Sabi niya pagkatapos ng NPA, CAFGU na naman."

But she got her wish. "Mahirap pala," she exclaimed. "Nahihilo ako sa kaka-about face."

For six years, Teresita Loraña changed bed pans and gave sponge baths to bedridden patients in Spain and Italy. It was a well-paying job, but her heart belonged to Laguna. She came home for good in 1986, and recently, was elected barangay councilwoman of Barangay Olla in Majayjay.

The CAFGU, she said, is part of her "service to the people."

Zoleta said "firing" was the hardest part of the training. Smoking and drinking was strictly no-no during the 45-day training period.



Strikers alerted vs sanctions

Government strikes illegal

GOVERNMENT employees, including public school teachers, have the right to organize and demand salary increases, but they do not have the right to strike, the Supreme Court declared.

In a 16-page resolution penned by Justice Irene Cortez, the high court upheld the Civil Service Commission which earlier ruled that the strike staged by officers of the Social Security System employees union, sometime in June 1987, was "illegal."

The SSS union officers barricaded all entrances to the SSS building, prevented their fellow employees from reporting to work, and barred the public from transacting business with them to press their demand for higher salaries and benefits.

The tribunal's decision came on the third week of the strike staged by government employees and public school teachers seeking salary increase. The strikes vowed to intensify the protest after rejecting the salary standardization bill approved by Congress the other day.

Government workers said they would pressure President Aquino to veto the bill, which grants P2,000 minimum basic pay for government employees and P3,102 for teachers. The strikers are demanding a minimum of P2,700 for government employees and P4,215 for teachers.

In its decision, the Supreme Court warned that striking government workers face sanctions provided by law. It said the term "government workers" embrace all employees of all branches, subdivisions, instrumentalities, and agencies of the government, including government-owned and -controlled corporations.

The court said that while the 1987 Constitution and the Labour Code recognise the right of government employees to organize and demand wage increases, both are silent on whether such recognition also included the right to strike.

To resolve the issue, the tribunal said it decided on the case by resorting to the intent of the framers of the Constitution. It said that the 1987 Constitutional Commissioners indicated in a proceeding that the intended to limit the right to formation of unions or associations only, without including the right to strike.

It also cited several memoranda of the CSC issued in April 1987, a few months before the Congress was installed.

One memorandum read: "... (It) enjoins under pain of administrative sanctions, all government officers and employees from staging strikes, demonstrations, mass leaves, walkouts and other forms of mass action which will result in temporary stoppage or disruption of public service."

The court also quoted a provision of the Republic Act 875, otherwise known as the Industrial Peace Act, which expressly stated similar rulings.

Meanwhile, officials of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines warned the government against ordering the massive dismissal of government workers and teachers who participated in a week-long strike.

In a statement, TUCP president Democrito Mendoza said any plan of the government against the strikers will only lead to further destabilization in the public sector.

Mendoza said the high court's ruling should not be used as an excuse to launch a crackdown against the public sector workers.

"Instead, we urge the government to exhaust all means to settle the strike," Mendoza said.

Meanwhile, Tomasito Villarin, spokesman of the Caucus for Independent Unions, said the more than 10,000 workers affiliated with them will hold a rally today at the Liwasang Bonifacio and march later to Mendiola.

The offices which are expected to be affected in the planned walkout are local governments, Bureau of Customs, Bureau of Post, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Air Transportation Office, National Housing Authority, Civil Service Commission and Philippine Fisheries Development Corporation.

Tax credits cleared

THE Board of Investments said it appreciated the concern voiced by Senator Ernesto Maceda over the reported use of falsified tax credit certificates issued by the BOI. The matter has been the subject of an investigation undertaken jointly by the BOI and the Garments and Textile Export Board (GTEB) which was started about four months ago. An integral part of the investigation is an audit of some 46 textile companies which have filed for export credits with the BOI and which have been granted advance tax credits on the basis of the documents submitted to the BOI.

Employee reinstatement postponed by Mison

THE Office of the Solicitor General stopped Customs Commissioner Salvador Mison from immediately implementing the Supreme Court ruling reinstating 310 customs employees he had dismissed.

Lawyer Mariano Abanilla, chief of the customs legal division, said he received a call from Solicitor General Frank Chavez informing him that a motion for reconsideration will be definitely filed.

"The filing of the motion (for reconsideration) will certainly with hold the implementation of the SC ruling (as ordered by Mison)," Abanilla said.

"The issue here does not involve only the bureau, but at least 10 other government departments and

agencies," he added.

Abanilla said Mison can't stop the OSG from filing the motion and neither can he waive such right.

Mison said he made a mistake in ordering the immediate implementation of the SC ruling. He claimed that when he first heard of the news, he thought the decision was already final.

"When I received the news, I thought it was only a matter of implementation," Mison said. "But I have been advised by the OSG that they're filing a motion for reconsideration which I think is really necessary."

Mison earlier said he would no longer wait for the 15-day grace period given by the high court.

From the provinces

QUEZON CITY: Chief Justice Marcelo B. Fernan said he was not among the guests during the diamond anniversary celebration the other day of the Ilesiani Cristo (INC) in Quezon City.

Fernan said he was in the vicinity of the CNK central offices on his way to address the convention of the Philippine Judges Association at the Celebrity Sports Plaza.

He said that for several hours, his car was stalled in the big traffic jam caused by many people attending the INC celebration.

SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga: The Department of Agriculture (DA) said the other day that the shellfishes taken from Bamban Bay in Masinloc, Zambales are still unsafe for human consumption despite the considerable decrease in the number of "red tide" organisms in the area.

DA officials expressed fears over the spread of the "red tide" menace, saying that the toxic organisms might be carried by typhoon "Goring" to other areas near the bay.

Results of laboratory tests conducted by DA field technicians showed that the number of "red tide" organisms found in the oysters are five cells per liter and the number of microorganism per 100 grams meat sample is 214.9 Ug.

The previous count was 9,100 cells per liter and 229 Ug per 100 grams consumed by oysters.

The latest laboratory examinations were conducted last July 19 by Anelisa Agnas and Francisca Galura, both of DA's regional regulatory division.

Agnas and Galura reported to DA regional Director Renato Bulay that the accumulation of organism in the shellfishes is still over the maximum tolerable limit which is 80 Ug per 100 grams. (Jerry Lacurara).

QUEZON CITY: A case of tax evasion has been filed against professional basketball player William Pearson with the metropolitan trial court here.

The tax-evasion charge was filed by the tax and duty prosecution group of the Department of Justice and it is now being reviewed by the QC prosecutor's office.

Pearson was among the sports and entertainment personalities who were investigated by the Department of Justice following the complaint of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

In a resolution submitted by tax and duty prosecutor Henrik F. Gingoyon, Pearson was found to have failed to pay his obligation amounting to P34,012.50 based on his earnings team in 1987.

QUEZON CITY: A police sergeant and a businessman were slain the other night while five men, including three constabulary agents, were seriously wounded in a

shootout reportedly triggered by an argument over parking space in Quezon City.

The fatalities were identified as Cecilio Pascual, 50, a car dealer, and Sgt. Reynaldo Crame, who is assigned with the PC Criminal Investigation Service.

CIS agents Sergeants Raymundo Reyes, 40 and Celedonio Baylon, 43 and Cpl. Evilio Bactad, 37, were wounded along with Corito delos Santos, 43, a bus conductor, and a still unidentified male bus passenger.

Witnesses told the police that the incident happened in front of the Eurocars Sales Inc. on E. De Los Santos Avenue, Cubao at about 9:30 pm.

MANILA: The Manila City Hall heads the list of local governments which have failed to settle its electric bills with Merakoo.

In a press statement, the Merakoo public information office said notice had been served Manila City Hall that power will be cut off to its non-essential services if it would not pay its debt amounting to P62 million.

Other local governments and their outstanding accounts are Mandaluyong, P12.4 million; Makati, P12.4 million; Pasig, P9 million; Kalookan, P7.3 million; Metro Manila Commission, P5.9 million; Quezon City, P5.5 million; San Juan, P3.3 million; Marikina, P3.2 million; and Las Pinas, P2.1 million.

BACOLOD CITY: About 25,000 people gathered at the public plaza here to pay tribute to Bishop Emeritus Antonio Y. Fortich of championing the cause of the poor and to welcome the new head of the diocese, Monsignor Camilo Gregorio.

Fortich, 75, retired in accordance with the canon law. He has been an outspoken champion of human rights and is a nominee for 1989 Nobel Peace Prize.

Among those who attended were Cebu Arch-bishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, Papal Nuncio Bruno Torpigliani, eight bishops, three archbishops and scores of priests and nuns.

Among the various organizations that paid tribute to Fortich were sugar workers, small fishermen, small farmers, members of the Basic Christian Community, urban poor lay organizations, nuns, priests and sugar planters.

NEGROS: Alarmed by the increasing destruction and pilferage of power transmission cables throughout the country, Senate President Pro Tempore Teofisto Guingona sought to penalize such act with life imprisonment to prevent further damage to the government's electrification programme.

Guingona said the illegal act started in Negros province in 1983 and had spread rapidly in Luzon. As a result, the National Power Corporation has incurred losses amounting to about P700 million in replacement costs

tempore and majority and minority floor leaders from running in the 1992 presidential race.

MANILA: Human rights lawyer Reynaldo L. Bagatsing deplored what he called "pattern of harassment" against mediamen who have been exposing shenanigans in the Bureau of Customs.

Bagatsing also sought an investigation by the Ombudsman and the Office of the President of allegedly anomalous importations of fruits which, he said, were grossly undervalued. The fruits were made to appear that these came from Thailand, Korea, and China, he said.

He expressed grave concern over the case of Bulletin columnist Lito A. Catapusan who was threatened with a "piece of my own" by a certain importer who is well known among customs employees.

The suspected smuggler of fruits as earlier exposed by Catapusan and by other mediamen has been very daring and bold in his threat and even confessed that he is not alone in the trade," Bagatsing said.

He said that the revelation made by this importer scandalizes President Aquino and Finance Secretary Vicente Jayme.

Bagatsing said that the write-up of Catapusan brings to the fore the problem of unabated smuggling which does not only adversely affect industries but also deprives the government of revenues.

QUEZON CITY: One of three men accused of forcibly taking the car of a regional trial court (RTC) judge parked in front of a restaurant in Quezon City last year has been sentenced to 17 years imprisonment and ordered to pay the car owner P180,000.

Found guilty of carjacking in a six-page decision issued by QC RTC Judge Maximiano C. Asuncion was Raul A. Suarez, who had pleaded not guilty to the charge.

Suarez, together with Bernardo Crisologo and Pierre B. Blantoc, was charged with forcibly taking at gunpoint the 1981 Colt Lancer car of RTC Judge Danilo Pine and his wife, lawyer Mercy Pine, on Oct 9, 1987.

"The court doubts the credibility of the testimonies of the accused and his lone witness, Elizabeth Tabaco," Judge Asuncion said

KALOOKAN: Doctors delivered a 4 pound 13 ounce baby girl by Caesarian section from a woman who died moments earlier, a hospital official said.

Dr. Ferdinand Martinez said the 23-year-old mother, Jenelyn Mangawang, died Thursday from electrocution in an accident at her home, which was located beside his private hospital in Kalookan City.

She was rushed to the hospital and pronounced dead on arrival, but doctors decided to



CAFGU women in training

Congressmen under probe

Fat commissions received

A SPECIAL house committee is investigating several congressmen who allegedly receive fat commissions from private contractors hired by the public works department.

According to Rep. Oscar Santos (PDP-Quezon), Speaker Ramon V. Mitra handpicked members of the probe committee. He (Mitra) "wants a full-blown investigation because the integrity of the chamber is at stake," Santos said.

The inquiry stemmed from a story in which several members of the House receive 5 per cent commissions from firms hired to undertake multi-million peso government infrastructure projects all over the country.

Mitra gave the committee one month to verify the report and determine the extent of the corrupt practices of some of his colleagues. "We are of the opinion that there is basis (for the report)," said Santos.

Santos added he was instructed by Mitra not to identify the subjects of the inquiry "for a while" since the probe is "sensitive and might involve a lot of people in Congress."

Santos said their initial inquiry showed that the Department of Public Works and Highways has a yearly average infrastructure budget of P19 billion and contracts are awarded to about 2,500 different private firms to undertake at least 32,000 projects.

The House also found out that the DPWH spends at least 30 per cent of its annual budget on commissions awarded by contractors to DPWH officials. Santos said 5 per cent of the budget to build roads, bridges and other infrastructures possibly goes to some congressmen.

Public Works Secretary Fiorello Estuar and Tulfo will be summoned first by the committee to shed light on the allegations, Santos said.

"We have to find out the mechanics — from the bidding to monitoring of projects especially acceptance of project contracts — to get a whole idea of the scheme."

Referring to money lost in commissions which could have possibly been used to build more roads, Santos said: "We are really wasting money."



Ms. Mangawang's baby girl placed in an incubator at the Martinez General Hospital in Kalookan.

shootout reportedly triggered by an argument over parking space in Quezon City.

The fatalities were identified as Cecilio Pascual, 50, a car dealer, and Sgt. Reynaldo Crame, who is assigned with the PC Criminal Investigation Service.

CIS agents Sergeants Raymundo Reyes, 40 and Celedonio Baylon, 43 and Cpl. Evilio Bactad, 37, were wounded along with Corito delos Santos, 43, a bus conductor, and a still unidentified male bus passenger.

Witnesses told the police that the incident happened in front of the Eurocars Sales Inc. on E. De Los Santos Avenue, Cubao at about 9:30 pm.

of damaged transmission facilities.

MANILA: A congressman filed a resolution banning leaders of both chambers of Congress from running as president or vice-president of the Republic immediately after their term expires in 1992.

Citing growing public perceptions that most high public officials now have their eyes towards "advancing their political career," Rep. Oscar Santos (PDP-Laban, Quezon) said his measure aims to protect the people's interest.

The proposal seeks to ban the Senate President, House speaker, House speaker pro-

attempt the operation after detecting a fetal heart beat, Martinez said.

In less than one minute, surgeons delivered a baby girl who gave a weak cry, Martinez said. The baby is now in an incubator and in generally good condition, he said.

"She was pale when she came out but later on turned pink, and she's OK now," Martinez said. He said the infant could not have survived had the operation on the mother lasted a few more minutes.

Mrs. Mangawang died after she stepped on a live electrical wire while hanging clothes in her flooded backyard during a stormy night, authorities said.

FILIPINO DIGEST

3 soldiers kill each other: Three army soldiers were killed when they shot it out at the height of an altercation last Monday in their Mabini, Negros Oriental barracks, the military reported last week.

Brig. Gen. Orlando Antonio, commander of the Visayas Command based in Cebu City, said the incident happened at about 2 am when Army troopers Pfc. Nestor Rasimo and Pfc. Pedro Ramos engaged in an argument.

The report said Rasimo got his gun and shot to death Ramos. Pfc. Reynaldo Layson who tried to pacify was also shot by Rasimo. Although wounded, Layson was able to fire back killing Rasimo on the spot.

Layson died on the way to the hospital.

The three soldiers all belonged to the 66th Infantry Battalion. The report did not say what triggered the altercation.

Tapes record killings: Soldiers in Laguna have recovered from an abandoned rebel camp several cassette tapes recording the ordeals of suspected deep penetration agents at the hands of New People's Army (NPA) commanders.

LT Col Edgardo Aguirre, Laguna PC commander, said the 21 tapes were found by a joint PC-Army patrol led by LT Ronaldo Santos and LT Reynaldo Lizon of the 63rd Infantry Battalion in Sitio Gintababan of Kalayaan town.

Evidence found in the camp indicated that it had been occupied by Geminiano Gualberto alias Ka Claro, leading member of the CPP-NPA provincial party committee.

PC Chief Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano directed that the tapes be brought to Camp Crame to be analyzed by the intelligence division.

An initial report to the PC chief said one of the tapes clearly recorded the interrogation of a suspected informer and an order: "Siege, patayin na yan."

In another tape, the sounds of moaning and the clinking of chains indicated the possible torture of captives.

One tape contained a full-length interview of Army Lt Romeo Gan who was captured last year by the NPA and released only after negotiations.

A fourth tape had NPA guerrillas introduction themselves allegedly as AFP agents.

Montano said the discovery of the tapes adds confirmation to long-held evidence of a bloody purge and "house-cleaning" of the NPA's ranks, plus rebel disregard for human rights.

Alan Allan

Nothing on cap killers: Three teams of police probes have not yet positively identified the killers of Col Hermundo Taylo and Col Jose Balbas Jr although the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) cartographer had provided them sketches of the suspected assassins of the two police officials.

Makati police investigation division chief Maj. Ramon Macaspac said they are still searching for tangible leads that could identify the killer of Taylo.

SPD chief Brig. Gen. Jesus Samson designated Macaspac to head the investigation of the Taylo killing.

The two SPD investigation teams and Paranaque police probes are also facing a blank wall in the investigation of the killing of Balbas. Balbas was ambushed by five men on June 26. Eight days later, Taylo was shot by a liquidation squad composed of woman and two men in Makati.

The Paranaque police have three witnesses who provided the NBI with the descriptions of Balbas killers.

The Makati police have four witnesses in the Taylo killing.

They also gave the NBI the descriptions of the three killers.

Metropolitan police force director and concurrent Capital Regional Command chief Brig. Gen. Alexander Aguirre went to the Makati police headquarters yesterday to boost the morale of policemen.

Aguirre told the lawmen not to be cowed by the killings. He asked them to view the incidents as "inspiration" and challenge for them to do their task with idealism.

"Dito natin manipapakita na tayo ay tunay na mga lalaki," Aguirre said.

DFA seeks stranger's relatives: Philippine Ambassador to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Masayuki Taniwa, requested the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to contact the relatives of a Filipino domestic helper jailed there for strangling her sister to death.

Taniwa reported to the DFA that Mercedes Lanit, 38, of Singalong, Malate is in solitary confinement. He identified the victim as Susan.

Mercedes alleged that she lost her cool after a violent confrontation with Susan.

Taniwa said if the parents would execute an affidavit saying they are no longer interested to pursue the case, Mercedes would be sent home.

Police threatened: The Eastern Police District (EPD) headquarters on Meralco Ave., Pasig received two death threats by phone from a male caller.

Two death calls were received by Pat Efron Sto. Domingo at the headquarters' Criminal Investigation Division (CID) office at 10:05 am.

Sto. Domingo said the caller informed him that several EPD officers and men will suffer the same fate suffered by Makati Police chief Col Hermundo Taylo. Taylo was shot dead by three unidentified men near his house in Barangay Pio del Pilar, Makati Tuesday morning.

"Malapit na ring mangyari sa iba sa inyo ang sinapit ni Taylo," the caller warned Sto. Domingo.

Diplomat blacklisted: The Philippine Embassy in Korea yesterday asked the Department of Foreign Affairs to prevent an Arab diplomat from coming here.

The embassy wants Yousif Abu Marshood, finance officer of the United Arab Emirates embassy in Korea, blacklisted after his Filipino maid complained to the DFA that Marshood maltreated her and did not pay her salaries.

The Philippine embassy tried to help the Filipina whose passport Marshood allegedly refused to return but the diplomat has not yet responded.

The DFA was also told to warn another Filipina whom Marshood was hiring as domestic helper.

Council woman killed: A Barangay council woman was shot dead by unidentified men and a woman in Bagong Barrio, Kalookan City yesterday.

Delia Jimenez, 38, of 192 G. de Jesus St., Bagong Barrio, Kalookan City, was declared dead on arrival at the MCU Hospital. She died from several gunshot wounds in the body.

Jimenez was in their parked jeep with her son and a friend at the corner of Masagap and Reparto streets some 20 metres away from their home, and was about to drive to a church to hear Mass when her attackers struck police said.

Jimenez's son, Rodel said one of the men grabbed her mother's bag. As she grappled for it, a woman approached from behind and shot her in the back.

Although wounded, his mother jumped off the jeep and ran to the house of Lita Matias on Masagap St. to hide. But one of the men followed her there and shot her several times, Rodel said.

Rodel said he tried to defend his mother but one of the men poked a gun at his head.

"Huwag daw akong makikilala sa NPA sila," Rodel told police.

After shooting her mother, the suspects fled in different directions. One of them took his mother's bag, Rodel said.

Rodel described her mother's killers as in their early 20s.

Several witnesses told police that before the shooting, the gunmen prevented tricycle drivers from passing Reparo St.



Above: strikers march off Ayala Bridge toward Malacanang
Right: Riot policemen ask striking teachers not to cross the barbed wire used as barricade on Chino Roces bridge in Mendiola

Teachers snub Cory; protests abide

By Vic Agustin and Nimfa Rueda

LEADERS of striking public school teachers snubbed a scheduled dialog with President Aquino to protest her decision to sign into law the Salary Standardization Bill.

"The President was hoping they (strike leaders) would come, as she said she was willing to meet them if they wanted to meet her," Press Secretary Adolfo Azucena said.

"But she cannot force them if they did not want to meet with her."

Leaders of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT), the Manila Public School Teachers' Association (MPSTA) and Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employees (COURAGE), which spearheaded the three-week strike, boycotted the meeting they had earlier requested.

In a letter to Ms. Aquino, Eric Torres, spokesman of the Teachers and Employees Consultative Council (TECC), said the dialog would be "futile" since she has already decided to sign the bill approved by Congress last week.

Torres also said the teachers felt "slighted" when Ms. Aquino refused to see them last Wednesday and met instead with leaders of non-striking groups affiliated

with the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP).

The striking teachers and government workers had sought the meeting to persuade Ms. Aquino to veto the bill, which pegs the minimum salary of teachers at P3,102 a month and that of other government employees at P2,000.

The teachers wanted a minimum salary of P4,500, while other government workers called for a P2,500 basic pay.

Ms. Aquino on Thursday asked the teachers to accept the salary bill, saying it was "the best and final offer for now," and ordered them to return to work or face sanctions.

In the absence of the strike leaders, Ms. Aquino held a dialogue with leaders of non-striking groups of government employees. With her in the meeting were Education Secretary Lourdes Quisumbing and Budget Secretary Guillermo Carague.

Vicente Ramos, chairman of the Caucus of Independent Unions (CIU), who attended the meeting, said the dialogue produced "positive results."

He said CIU members will report for work on Monday "in deference to the ongoing negotiations with President Aquino."

"Definitely, we are not satisfied with the bill, so we are urging the President to

exercise her presidential charms to break the impasse on our pay demands," he added.

Azucena said Ms. Aquino looked favourably on proposals for non-wage measures to "extend" the salaries of teachers and other government employees. These include the conversion into cash of unused sick leaves, the recent increase in Medicare benefits and government-subsidised housing.

Leaders of teachers and other government employees' groups will discuss these measures with Quisumbing and Chairman Patricia Sto. Tomas of Civil Service Commission, he said.

"The policy of the government is a continuing review and examination of ways to improve the living condition of its workers and in fact the government has done this without any pressure," Azucena said.

About 5,000 teachers held an "indignation rally" in front of the Senate to denounce the approval of the salary standardization bill.

Strike leaders said they will announce today whether the teachers would return to work on Monday. Earlier, they said they would comply with the return-to-work order issued Thursday by Quisumbing if they would not be penalised for their

protest action.

Quisumbing said in a press briefing yesterday she might not impose sanctions against the strikers if they would return to their classrooms on Monday.

Quisumbing also said Ms. Aquino promised to work for further increases in teachers' salaries once the economy improves even without any pressure from the teachers.

In Cagayan de Oro City, meanwhile, officials of a newly formed alliance of government employees and public school teachers said its members would walk off their jobs today.

Romeo Balandra, Region X director of the Population Commission 10 and chairman of the Regional Alliance of Government employees (RAGE), said the strike would affect 20 government agencies in the city, including provincial and city offices.

He said some 4,500 teachers from provincial schools and 1,500 in city schools would take part in the mass action. In Davao City, 200 public schools remained closed for the ninth day as 6,000 teachers joined a protest march against the bill.

About 150 doctors, nurses and other medical workers also demonstrated in front of the Davao Medical Center to demand a P2,800 minimum monthly pay.

P200m lost to grafters

MORE than P200 million was lost by the government last year because of graft and corruption in the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Secretary Florentino Estuar said.

Testifying before a special committee of the House of Representatives investigating the DPWH, Estuar disclosed that graft and corruption was rampant and well-entrenched in his department, costing the government hundreds of millions of pesos a year.

He said he had evidence documenting 720 cases of graft and corruption committed from March 1987 up to present.

"Graft and corruption proliferates within and outside the organization, often assisted by officials within the organization," Estuar told the committee headed by Rep. Oscar Santos (PDP, Quezon).

From a pile of documents he brought along, Estuar pulled out a blue folder and told the jam-packed hearing: "I have here a document on the anatomy of graft and corruption at the DPWH. But my documents here go deeper than that which I will make available to you."

Estuar said he found out recently that the government lost at least P200 million in last year's P7-billion infrastructure construction programme.

Most of the projects, he said, were cornered by contractors of questionable reputation who were able to participate in the biddings although they had been suspended previously by the DPWH.

He said some of the documented cases of graft were:

- The rigging of biddings for five projects, one of which was funded by a foreign loan.
- A multimillion peso public works project in Boso-Boso, Antipolo for which five companies submitted bids prepared in the same handwriting.

Records of contractors with interlocking sets of officers, many of whom had been banned from entering into any contract with the DPWH.

Estuar said he disclosed the findings of the intelligence unit he organized to the House committee to demonstrate his agency's willingness to co-operate with Congress in its efforts to expose grafters in and outside the DPWH.

But Estuar said the biggest problem facing his department was the collusion between DPWH officials and contractors.

"I have several more cases here which were compiled by the intelligence agents I have sent out. But collusion with (DPWH) officials remains the biggest problem," he said.

Estuar said at least 60 contractors were suspended by the DPWH this year for participating in questionable biddings, but they were still able to secure some contracts.

The investigating committee was created by Speaker Ramon V. Mitra last week following reports that graft in the implementation of DPWH involved some members of Congress who received commissions from contractors for endorsing their firms.

However, Santos said that reports were "incidental" to the opening of an in-depth congressional inquiry into graft at DPWH which was "common knowledge."

Santos said Congress was especially concerned about graft and corrupt practices of public officials in the DPWH, since it implements the government's infrastructure programme worth billions of pesos a year.

Vasquez: 'sorry'

By Gerry Lirio

OMBUDSMAN Conrado Vasquez apologized to Solicitor General Francisco Chavez for the inclusion of his name in a list of Department of Justice officials under investigation for graft and criminal offenses.

Vasquez clarified in a letter to Chavez that it was Malacanang not the Office of the Ombudsman which leaked the list to media.

Chavez and Justice Secretary Sedfrey Ordonez were included in the list of more than 50 government prosecutors and DOJ personnel under investigation for various offenses, ranging from malversation of public funds to abuse and usurpation of public

duty.

In his letter to Chavez, Vasquez said he shared the solicitor general's displeasure over the publication of the list.

"Your displeasure about it is very understandable, considering the probable adverse effect of such publication to your good name, particularly in view of the fact the complaint against you ... was utterly without merit ..."

Vasquez said.

"I venture to explain, however, that the request of Malacanang for such list did not specify whether or not the list shall be only of pending cases, to the exclusion of those which had already been terminated," he added.

Vasquez submitted the list to Malacanang Wednesday upon President Aquino's request.

Ms. Aquino reportedly asked for the list to help her assess the performance of his Cabinet members and other presidential appointees. She is scheduled to meet with Ordonez today to discuss the cases, Vasquez said.

According to the report, both Ordonez and Chavez were charged with violations of the Anti-graft and Corrupt Practices Act. Both Ordonez and Chavez denied the charges.

Chavez said the case against him stemmed from an erroneous Commission on Audit report that he charged to the government P5,560 worth of personal expenses. He said Audit Chairman Eufemio Domingo has corrected the error.



Chavez

Press council will not probe Senate 'tsismis'

THE Philippine Press Council (PPC) decided against investigating a complaint endorsed by Sen. Vicente T. Paterno concerning a column item written by columnist Julie Yap Daza which alleged that a woman senator was having an affair with her driver.

The PPC, a body of newspaper ombudsmen, said it "found no reason to proceed with the case" in the absence of a formal complaint from Senators Leticia Ramos-Shahani and Santanina Rasul.

Rasul and Shahani had protested Daza's allegation which could only refer to one of them, being the only women members of the Senate.

It also decided not to open an investigation of the case "in the light of subsequent events" that have overtaken the case.

Daza, columnist of the Manila Standard and host of the television talk show, "Tell the People," had admitted in a Senate public hearing that the item she wrote was "pure tsismis," and that she was only writing about what rumours were being heard.

Daza apologized to the senators but the two rejected the apology and hastily left the hearing of the Senate ethics committee after issuing separate statements.

Prior to the hearing Paterno referred the woman senators' protest to the PPC so that it may act on the case and issue an advisory. The PPC has no authority to order sanctions but can issue its opinions on matters pertaining to journalism so it may carry out its role as press watchdog.

Supreme Court Associate Justice Edgardo Paras, PPC chairman, opposed an earlier resolution by the PPC to hear the case.

Had other PPC members insisted on the resolution, he would have given Rasul and Shahani 10 days within which to file a formal complaint with the PPC and if they fail, he said, he would have to consider the case closed.

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Satur in good company

CAPTURED communist leaders Satur Ocampo and his wife, Carolina Malay, are not being held in solitary confinement in Fort Bonifacio, according to Maj. Gen. Ramon Montano, PC-INP chief.

Answering a query from Sen. Aquilino Pimentel during the Senate finance subcommittee hearing on the PC-INP budget, Montano said unknown to the public, the couple has been provided with separate rooms by the military.

The detention building where they are now also houses the detention cells for other prisoners like ex-Quirino Gov. Orlando Dulay, Maj. Reynaldo Cabatuan and a certain Major Daclan who was implicated in the bloody Aug. 28, 1987, coup attempt.

"The couple has a room there and there are other prisoners there. So we consider they are in a good company," Montano told the subcommittee.

Montano said the couple was supposed to be held in Camp Crame detention center but it is already crowded with prisoners.

most of them coup plotters.

Meanwhile, the Makati Municipal Trial Court gave the Ocampos 10 days to file whatever they wish to submit after they were ordered to appear in court for the hearing of their motion to quash the search warrant.

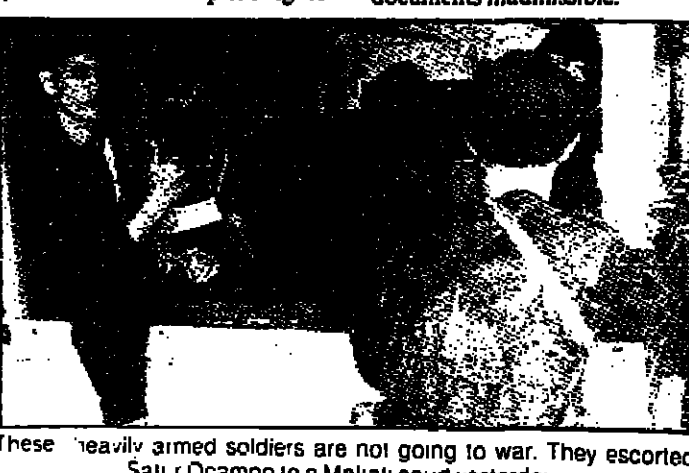
Judge Pedro R. Arce issued the decision after lawyer Romeo Capulong, counsel of the Ocampos, asked for ample time to present additional pleading to

support the couple's motion.

Arce issued the search warrant to PC Col. Roberto Delfin which was served on the same day by the government agents at the Ocampos rented apartment room at 2849 Zenaida St. near the Makati municipal hall.

Capulong said he filed the motion to quash the search warrant because it was unconstitutional and therefore declared the seized articles and documents inadmissible.

These heavily armed soldiers are not going to war. They escorted Satur Ocampo to a Makati court yesterday.



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Discovering there's more to life than screeching fans

Fateful trip to Amazon forest haunts Sting

By Marina Shamon

RELAXING at his penthouse suite at the luxurious Sheraton hotel in Rio, Brazil, the last thing millionaire rock star Sting had on his mind was witnessing the destruction of the Amazonian rain forests.

He was there to play at the Maracana stadium in front of 200,000 screaming fans. Not to get involved in the country's politics. But every corner he turned, Sting saw the figure of his friend, Belgian film-maker Jean Pierre Dutilleul, who pleaded with him to visit the jungle.

Jean Pierre had made a film about the charismatic Indian chief Raoni and the plight of his people, the Kayapo tribe a decade ago.

Finally, exasperated by this irritating little Japper Belgian, Sting said, "O.K." just to stop Jean Pierre from harassing him.

The husky voiced singer was aware that the forest was being destroyed. This threatened the survival of the Amazon Indians and was ruining the ecological system, but Sting did not realise to what extent. He was about to find out.

Sitting in the garden of his mansion in Highgate, North London, Sting, aged 33, told me: "Originally when Jean Pierre asked me to visit the forest, I didn't want to go. I was busy on tour. It's hard work and when you do have time off, you want to relax."

"I am not a tourist and the last thing I wanted to do was see the sights. But Jean pestered me so much that the only way to get him off my back was to agree."

"I knew the general terms of the forest being destroyed but I didn't have a human face to it. So, when I met the Amazonian chief Raoni and heard from his own lips exactly what was going on, it was very compelling and irresistible."

"Raoni then said, 'Help me. It was simple and direct. I was so moved, it was hard for me to say, 'No'. "I told Raoni I am an entertainer not a politician, but I'll do what I can. A lot of people listen to what I say, and I can raise media interest. I'll try to tell the story. That was two years ago."

Desert
Sting, together with girlfriend actress Trudie Styler flew from Brasilia over miles of red desert which abruptly ended and gave way to the gigantic forest. Ten years ago, the

desert was a majestic forest. But with logging, mining, dams, road building and the burning of the forest to allow for either cattle grazing or crop-raising, the problem has reached crisis point.

The Amazon Indians fiercely protect the forest and sometimes it has cost them their lives. Sting explained: "We are trying to raise three and half million dollars to provide watch towers, a scientific station for studying rain forests and an aircraft. We want to preserve an area the size of Belgium where the Indians live."

The dense tropical rain forest is one of the main sources of oxygen for the whole planet and every minute, 60 acres of rainforest are destroyed.

With his shoulder length blond hair and a reputed £20 million fortune, Sting's world seemed an ocean away from Raoni and his beloved jungle.

Sting said: "I wasn't born with a silver spoon in my mouth. I am used to camping and living in rough conditions. No one goes into the jungle out of choice. You have to be invited because the Indians are a belligerent people and they don't take kindly to intruders."

"I had 50 bites on my right leg and numerous others all over my body. I looked like a leper. The Indians paint their bodies to protect them from insects and they did the same to me. From then on, the insects didn't seem to find me so attractive. Trudie said I looked like a 'firework'."

"We drank and washed in the Xingu river. It is unpolluted so it is perfectly safe to drink from. The only things you have to watch out for are the piranha fish. We slept on hammocks in the huts. I even ate monkey meat one day without realising what it was. When I found out, I didn't run off and make myself sick. I am not squeamish. I can eat almost anything."

"After living in the Amazon, I reassessed my world table of culture. We, in the West, somehow believe that the Amazonian Indians are primitive and we have to teach them how to get on in the world."

Opposite
"But it is totally the opposite. The Amazon Indians are more attuned to living on the planet than we are. Their culture doesn't depend on destroying their environment but living in harmony with it. That strikes me as being far more civilized than we are. We burn the kitchen one day and expect to eat



Sting (left) with Amazon chief Raoni.

the next."

Experiencing life in the Amazonian jungle changed Sting's life completely. Even though he and Trudie were attacked by a pit viper and tarantulas, Sting says he had the greatest time of his life.

The tranquility of the lush surroundings helped ease Sting's pain. For shortly before this visit, Sting's milkman father died of cancer.

Staring ahead, Sting told me: "In a way it helped me come to terms with my father's death. The jungle brings out your emotions. You can't hide your feelings and keep them under control. It is not like in England where

All the rock star wanted to do in Brazil was wow the fans with his music. But Sting's friend, Belgian film-maker Jean Pierre Dutilleul, 'haunted' him until he made a fateful trip to see the Amazonian forest disaster for himself.

you have to keep a stiff upper lip.

"Although I was a long way away from the comfort of my home, and both Trudie and I missed our kids, Mickey, aged five, and three-year-old Jake, I didn't feel lonely."

"In a way, I envy the Amazonians for the simplicity of their life and the beauty of their surroundings. I felt

lucky, privileged and honoured to be invited to their homeland. I experienced something that was really out of the ordinary."

Now, two years after Sting's fateful visit to the jungle, the campaign to save the rainforest is gaining momentum. The Rain Forest Foundation has been set up and Sting has written a book

called Jungle Stories which explains how he became involved and gives facts on the state of the rainforest today.

Relaxing in casual green trousers and Navy blue baggy jumper, Sting looks a million dollars away from the image of a sex symbol. He said: "I am here basically, to lay the ground work for Raoni so he can tell his own story. I feel he can have the same effect on the public, as he has had on me."

"Raoni is pretty irresistible. He is the real thing. He is a warrior. In fact, he is terrifying. He has this massive lower lip and intense eyes."

"Raoni has been fighting this battle for 30 years. He wants to give his grandchildren, and great-grandchildren the right to live as they want. Raoni's struggle is important for the whole world."

"On this trip we are aiming to prick the consciousness of the public and to promote a worldwide appeal to save a vast area of the forest. In an effort to raise the money, The Rain Forest Foundation has already met The Pope, President Mitterand and Prince Charles."

"We are aiming to demarcate a piece of land and we need three and half million dollars."

Caring Sting has even opened the doors of his home to Raoni and two of his nephews who are accompanying him on this trip.

He explained: "Raoni invited me into his home when I was in the jungle and I am returning his hospitality. It is better than staying in a hotel."

"Mickey and Jake are enamoured with Raoni. Mickey has even given the chief her room." At this point, Mickey, in a school uniform — white shirt, tie and grey pinafore dress — runs across the lawn and throws herself into her father's open arms.

Sting stops talking for a second and gives his undivided attention to his blonde-haired daughter, cuddling her and showering her with kisses.

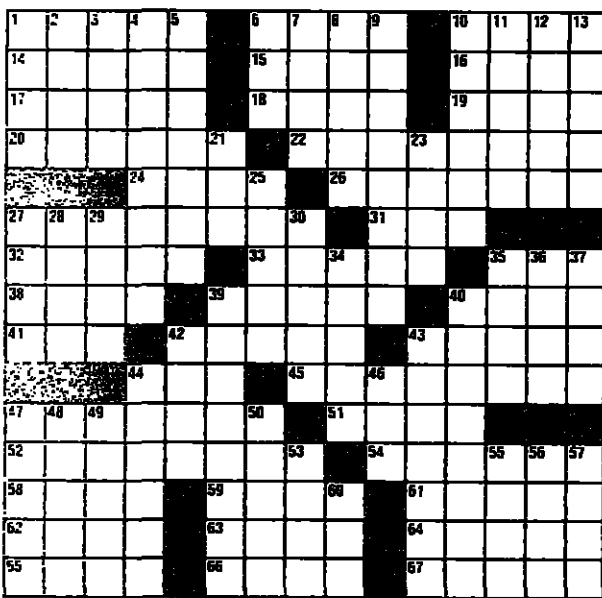
Talking softly to Mickey, Sting said: "You've given Raoni your room, haven't you Mickey? It is like a jungle, so he'll feel at home." Mickey smiles and nods.

Although, Sting's children are very young, he still told them about his time in the jungle and the rainforest. "I have explained the problem to them and they understand and are aware of it," he said.

This is not the first time that Sting has taken part in a campaign to raise money. He took part in Live Aid to help the starving in Ethiopia and went on a global tour in aid of Amnesty International.

He said: "I always seem to take on more than I can chew. I think this is a big challenge. It isn't Live Aid. I am not trying, to raise hundreds of millions. Nor am I trying to save the world. I just want to save a small part of it."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Steep slope
- 6 Semester
- 10 Singing voice
- 14 Whirlful one
- 15 Downwind side
- 16 Discharge
- 17 Proverb
- 18 Fed agent
- 19 Mary — little lamb
- 20 Gaudy
- 22 Puns
- 24 Anthropologist
- 26 Margaret
- 28 Gave in
- 31 Mimic
- 32 — garde
- 33 Food fish
- 35 Rock — Jovi
- 38 Trial
- 39 Sows
- 40 Leonine feature
- 41 Craft
- 42 Cremona creation, for short
- 43 Jousting weapon
- 44 Pall
- 45 Ordered
- 47 — to tell a lie
- 51 Type of instrument
- 52 Clever stratagem
- 54 Communicates
- 58 Cattle-breeding people of E. Africa
- 59 "The Terrible"
- 61 Meat cut
- 62 Asian desert
- 63 Field of granular snow
- 64 Fill with joy
- 65 Noun ending
- 66 Expanded
- 67 Passover feast

DOWN

- 1 Type of rug
- 2 Musical ending
- 3 Equal, with "on"
- 4 Military unit
- 5 Introduce
- 6 Make lace
- 7 Saint of sailors
- 8 Harvests
- 9 King of Sparta
- 10 Act properly
- 11 Maker of fine violins
- 12 Viewpoints
- 13 Lay away
- 21 Pillbox, e.g.
- 23 Ecstatic
- 25 Hinder
- 27 Pro —
- 28 Constantly
- 29 Endure
- 30 Fear

34 More unusual

- 35 Musical group
- 36 Formerly
- 37 Requirement
- 39 Trying hard
- 40 Jaw
- 42 Dolphin-like fish
- 43 "Hamlet" role
- 44 Spenser's "The Queen"
- 46 Sea gull
- 47 Icon
- 48 Claw
- 49 Ignores
- 50 At no time
- 53 Speak
- 54 Irrationally
- 55 Amphibian
- 56 Grafted, in heraldry
- 57 Prophet
- 60 Modern

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

AMID RAGED MEL
RENO AGORA BATE
MAKES MERRY IKON
SLY TONY DOZENS
BUNT BRAES
ARMADA MAESTRO
LEAKY CARAT ELL
TAKE CANEM PALE
OLE PUNGS EADIE
MAKES DO LAWYER
MOLTO TORN
STEREO SHOT OAF
HONE MAKESHASTE
ALDA ELITE PLOD
YES REDAIN TOMS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
DON'T TRUST A POLITICIAN

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH

♠ 2

♥ Q 10 4 3 2

♦ K 9 5 4

♣ A Q 3

WEST

♠ 9 8 5 3

♥ 7 6

♦ A 10 2

♣ 9 6 5 4

EAST

♠ K J 10 6 4

♥ J 9

♦ Q 6

♣ K 8 7 2

SOUTH

♠ A Q 7

♥ A K 8 5

♦ J 8 7 3

♣ J 10

The bidding:

East South West North

Pass 1 ♣ Pass 4 ♣

Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: ?

One of the highlights of the British socialbridge calendar is the annual match between the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Started fifteen years ago by Rixi Markus, the House of Lords had an 8-6 lead going into this year's match. They won again, despite this fine effort by Dr. L. Moonie of the Commons, which won him the Brillancy Prize.

At both tables the contract was four hearts. Sitting South for the Lords was perhaps their most accomplished player, Lord Lever. The British still use four-card majors, so the opening bid was automatic. Since a jump raise to three hearts would be invitational in their methods, North chose to jump to game.

With nothing to guide him, West found the devilish opening lead of the ten of diamonds! Not surprisingly, declarer called for a low diamond from dummy, and a startled East found his queen had won the trick. A diamond return went to the ace, and East ruffed the diamond continuation to complete the defensive book. Declarer had no way to avoid losing a trick to the king of clubs for down one.

The opening lead was less inspired in the other room. West led a routine top-of-nothing spade, and declarer had no difficulty in holding his losers to two diamonds and a club.

We have learned that political speeches should be treated with a pinch of salt. Are we going to have to extend this policy to the bridge table as well?

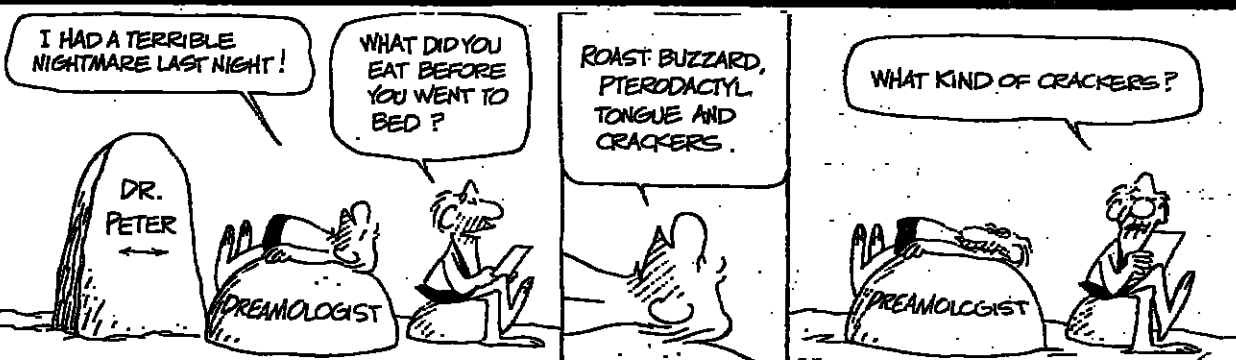
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)
You should not allow thoughts of work to spoil your day. A new idea will help you to save time. Your lucky numbers are 34 and 43. Do not hesitate to show your affection. Be thankful.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)
Others will find it easier to go along with you than you should not test their willingness too far. Try to avoid getting into an argument about politics.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)
Have a little more confidence in yourself and faith in others. Avoid doing anything you do not really believe in. Take the best possible care of your health. Be loyal.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)
You must not allow yourself to be dictated to by fashion, but nor should you be completely unfashionable if you can avoid it. Do not give up too soon. Eat only a moderate amount of salt and sugar. Be tactful.

Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)
You should try not to make a complicated matter still worse. You will have an opportunity to correct a misinterpretation of something you said. You should try to have a good laugh at yourself. Be solicitous.

Virgo (Aug 22 - Sept 21)
Do all you can to relax and to do not allow thoughts of work to intrude. You should keep calm when dealing with a difficult person. Do your best to ensure your partner does not feel put out.

Libra (Sept 22 - Oct. 22)
You will have to tread carefully when dealing with a touchy matter. Try to rid yourself of some preconceptions. Do not believe all you hear and would like to believe. Be observant.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov. 21)
You will have to tread delicately if you do not want to make a sensitive situation worse. Do not love yourself quite so much. Show just a little more interest in what interests your family. Be less cynical.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
You will tend to be a little on the lonely side but do not do anything silly simply because you are on your own. If you expect to get your way in every respect you will be disappointed.

Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19)
You should not trust to luck alone to get things right for you. You will be able to pursue a personal interest, but do not leave your partner entirely out of it. Avoid drinking more than you know you should. Be sensible.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb. 18)
Take your mind off work for the day. And spend some time replying to personal correspondence. Make sure you do not make any empty promises. Be moderate.

Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)
Not everything will be to your liking but you will know how to make the best of things. You should not allow yourself to be dissuaded from something that you know should be done.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

Available

SALWA, wanted Europeans to share a furnished villa. Tel. 4717911 ext. 233, 9013310. (AT1-48852-3)

SALWA, House 196, Block 7, Street 4, behind the Irani bakata. One large room with water and electricity for a family to share with an Indian family. Rent KD50. Tel. 5611243. (AT6-48830-3)

RUMATHIYA, one room fully furnished with kitchen and tele facilities available immediately for a single person. Tel. 2438120, 8 am - 5 pm. 5613895 after 6 pm. (AT1-48871-3)

KUWAIT City, Sharg, behind the fire station. Sharing accommodation for one or two bachelors or a couple (Indians only). Single bachelor preferred. Tel. 2447339. (AT1-48866-3)

SALMIYA, near Edees Store. One room in a 2 bedroom flat with water, electricity and tele facilities for an Indian bachelor. Rent KD50. Tel. 404188 ext. 258, 277. (AT1-48812-2)

SALMIYA, Baghdad Street. One room in a 2 bedroom flat for a Goan bachelor to share with a Goan family. Tel. Mr. Jacob, 2541824/5, 7 am - 4 pm. (AT1-48832-2)

SALMIYA, Amman Street, near the garden. Sharing accommodation in a spacious flat with separate kitchen, toilet and tele facilities for a small family or two bachelors from 1st September. Tel. Hamid, 5633880. (AT6-48808-3)

For Rent

JABRIYA, lovely villa, ground floor with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, sitting room, dining room, kitchen including private entrance. Rent KD380. Tel. 5332484 (no agent). (AT6-48824-3)

FOR SALE

Cars

LOTUS Turbo Spirit 1981, black with tan leather interior, excellent engine and transmission. KD5,000 or nearest offer. Tel. 9033069. (AT6-48833-6)

NISSAN Sunny 1.8 GL '86 automatic, brown metallic, in excellent condition. Tel. 2425995, 2430718, 8 am - 1 pm. 4-7 pm. (AT1-48826-3)

CITROEN BX16 1986, AC, fully automatic, in excellent condition. KD1100 cash. Tel. Khaled, 5717052, 6-10 pm. (AT1-48858-3)

NISSAN Bluebird 1.8 GL '86 model fully automatic, chocolate colour, in excellent condition. Tel. Sami, 2425995, 2430718, 8 am - 1 pm. 4-7 pm. (AT1-48826-3)

SAAB 900, Turbo, 1982, AC, automatic, silver colour in good condition KD700. Tel. Ayman Farouk, 2423133 Ext 43194/7, 30 am - 2 pm, 5713316 (3 pm - 9 pm), Thus - Fri. (AT1-48879-3)

SAAB 900, Turbo, 1982, AC, automatic, silver colour in good condition KD700. Tel. Ayman Farouk, 2423133 Ext 43194/7, 30 am - 2 pm, 5713316 (3 pm - 9 pm), Thus - Fri. (AT1-48879-3)

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Durrani Exchange, ladies volleyball champions



Al Rashed Freight, ladies basketball champions.



Halid-Ligaya: sikaran-karate champions and sponsors

Magnolia hold off EEI for basketball title

Palaro '89 games come to an end

By Gil Bangalan

MAGNOLIA Ice Cream beat the EEI-Kamish Al Aryan for the basket in the 5-minute extension of their game on Friday at the Keifan Gym. To earn the 1989 Kapiku basketball champions trophy. The Ice Cream Makers were protecting a 3-pts lead in the last 14 seconds of the regular time, when EEI-Kamish' Lugo won possession of the ball and completed a looping attempt from the 3-pts area and tied the score at 93-93 that forced the game to be extended.

But the foul-ridden EEI-Kamish missed the services of Lugo, Dingson, and Repollo early in the resumption of the extension period, which the Magnolia Ice Cream quintet exploited to post a well-deserved victory and with it the 1989 Champion's trophy.

Top scorers for Magnolia were San Buenaventura with 32 pts, Zalavaria 26 pts., and Menez 16 pts. while for the EEI-Kamish Al Aryan team Barcelona made 31 pts, Dingson 29 pts, Lugo 15 pts, and Repollo 10 pts.

Woodgroup Engineering defeated Regency Palace, 92-86, and SAS Hotel, 101-94, easing out EEI-Kamish for the First Runner-Up trophy. EEI-Kamish settled for the Second Runner-up position, while Regency Palace placed Third Runner-up.

Chosen as the Most Valuable Player was Ed Vargas of Magnolia Ice Cream, whom the Committee commended for his all round contribution during the games of his team. Tony Zalavaria who was a shoo-in for the much-coveted title missed his chance when he was early during the resumption of the second half.

Butch Arganoza of the SAS Hotel was named Rookie of the Year. He was likewise given a special award for his record-breaking game high score of 60 pts. The Most Sportsmanlike Team award went to the Pizza Italia team, while the Kuwait Danish Dairy received the Best Uniform award.

Other awardees in the men's basketball tourney were: Most Outstanding Coach — Danny Caolli of EEI-Kamish Al Aryan; Most Outstanding Team Manager — Ramzi Jabsheh of Magnolia Ice Cream; and chosen as Most Outstanding Referee was Hector Santos.

Members of the Filipino community in Kuwait came in droves to witness the closing ceremonies of the Palaro '89 and were regaled by the Flakiss dancers and by the Kabayan Restaurant singers. Similarly, Grace dela Fuente, already a popular voice among the Filipinos, graced the occasion with her song. Not to be outdone were the budding singers Mary Ann Espedilla, Judy dela Cruz, and petite Jessica Unico. The candidates to the Little Mr. & Miss Philippines-Kuwait were also presented to the public for the first time.

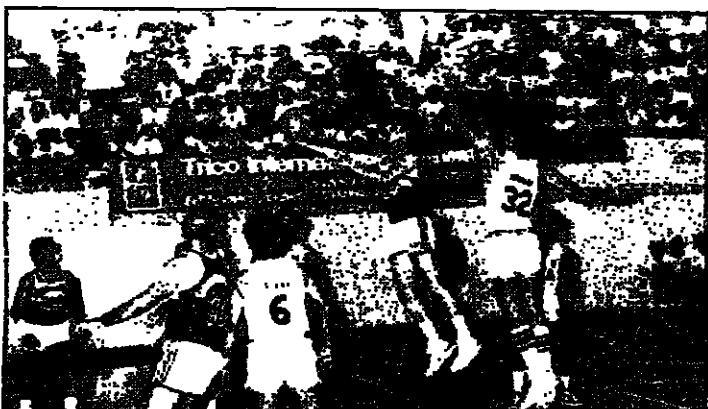
Present during the rites were the staff of the Philippine Embassy in Kuwait led by Mr. Florentino Ocampo, Officer-in-Charge and Lamberto Marin, Labour Attache. Among the distinguished guests were Mr. Yacoub Al Kandri and Don Y. Kannangara, who were at hand to distribute the trophies to the winners in the various events.

Likewise, the manager of the Hatid Ligaya-Abughosh and



Magnolia: the basketball champions

(Photos by Haitham Murshad)



Action shot of the Magnolia-EEI-Kamish match.



Magnolia players lift manager Ramzi Jabsheh (2nd right).

other sponsors graced the occasion with their presence. Freddie Fernando, VP-Sports and Chairman of the Palaro gave the Opening remarks, while Manny Inserto, President — Kapiku gave a brief message congratulating and thanking all participants and sponsors in the event. The Inspirational Talk was rendered by Florentino Ocampo, while Bert Marin gave the closing remarks. Master of Ceremonies for the occasion was Rod Cerezo, who indefatigably also had been the sportscaster during the games in the basketball tournament.

Inserto in his speech emphasized the role of Kapiku to the community as a whole, with the community service and welfare for all members. He thanked also all the participants, sponsors, officials and the staff and officers of the Philippine Embassy who rendered their valuable contributions for the success of the Palaro.

Ladies' basketball:
Champion — Al Rashed Freight; First Runner-up — Hatid Ligaya-Abughosh; Third Runner-up — Durrani Exchange; Most Valuable Player — Aida Santulan (Al Rashed); Rookie of the Year — Bing Maldar (Durrani); Best Uniform —

Durrani Exchange; Ladies' Volleyball: Champion — Durrani Exchange; First Runner-up — FCC Shell; Second Runner-up — Al Rashed Freight; Third Runner — Hatid Ligaya-Abughosh; Most Valuable Player — Noreen Samson; Rookie of the Year — Vivian Velasquez Table Tennis Singles
Champion: Jojo Rafael (Al Ghanim); First Runner-up — Dante Almuendas (Los Compadres); Second Runner-up — Jun Barrios Doubles:
Champion — Al Ghanim (Jojo Rafael & Jun Barrios); First Runner-up — Los Compadres (Dante Almuendas & G. Santiago); Second Runner-up — Kabayan Rest. (P. Cabacan & D. Palvate).

Lawn Tennis:
Singles (men's div).
Champion — Herbert Mendoza (Kay & Ass.); First Runner-up — Benji Aldecoa (Kay & Ass.); Second Runner-up — Tony Alviar (Auto-Tennis); Third Runner-up — Efrén Llanes; Singles (Ladies' Div).
Champion — Sally Rioja; First Runner-up — Flora Nagales; Second Runner-up —

Wila Aloy; Third Runner-up — Florina Gamboa; Doubles
Champion — Kay & Associates 1. (H. Mendoza/D. Felix); First Runner-up — Hatid Ligaya (J. Parayno/A. dela Cruz); Second Runner-up — KPBC (Jake/E. Llanes); Third Runner-up — RJRS (G. Sanes/A. Kagayotan).

Darts:
Champion — SAS Hotel; First Runner-up — EEI-Kamish Al Aryan; Second Runner-up — Mabuhay Restaurant; Third Runner-up — Kirby Building Systems.

Individual Awards: High start — Willy Bassig; High Score — Jose Pancho; High Finish — Med Baluyot.

Chess:
Champion — Kabayan Restaurant Team 1; First Runner-up — Kabayan Restaurant Team 2; Second Runner-up — Refrigeration Industry Co.

Best Board players award:
Board 1 — Ramon Cortado; Board 2 — Benjie Amasec; Board 3 — Rading Moje; Board 4 — Romy Pagaduan.

* All from the Kabayan Rest. teams
Individual chess competition:
Champion — Fernando Policarpio; 2nd Place — Rene

Mostrales; 3rd Place — Teddy Lagmay; 4th Place — Charlie Iral; 5th Place — Jess Betguen; 6th Place — Bernard delos Reyes

Pizza Italia Chess Classic:
An added attraction during the last day of the Palaro '89 was the Pizza Italia Chess Classic which pitted the Champion team against a selection of the best from among the other teams. Mr. Chawky Barakat, Manager of Pizza Italia, was at hand during the games as well as during the awarding of the medals and other prizes to the players.

The Rest-of-the-Team was composed of Nanding Policarpio, Rene Mostrales, Tony Monreal, Niel Dumlaog, Rolly Boado, Teddy Lagmay, Ariel Martinez, and Jun Mercado. Team Captain was Chito Barrios. The challengers won the exhibition match, 5-3.

The exhibition match was earlier on opened by Lamberto Marin and Manny Inserto with the traditional ceremonial moves. The tournament was organized by Kapiku.

Raffle Contests:
Right after the distribution of plaques of appreciation to all participants the Kapiku I.D. membership stubs were picked-up for the raffle contests. Hatid Ligaya — Abughosh Int'l

Bowling results

Women's division:
High Game — Rojo Hamdan — 233
High Series — Amy Abdon — 583
High Ave. — Amy Abdon — 179
Men's division:
High Game — George Gaerlan — 228
High Series — Edwin Nepomuceno — 605
High Ave. — Edwin Nepomuceno — 201.67

Team results

Women's division:

Team	Win points	Remainder
Trico	45	21
Land Bank	51	46
Far E. Rest	56	12
Al Sara	49	42

Men's division:

Team	Win points	Remainder
N.T.C.	56	9
Tectron	52	32
Al Rashed	54	23
Cabana	54	48
Phil Supreme	55	33
Magnolia	57	5
Trico	51	37
Hempel	53	5
Jokers	47	6
Penguins	55	25
Al Safat	59	21
Pullman Hotel	53	4

Game schedule Aug 24, 25

August 24, men's team: 6:00 pm (Thursday)

Lanes 1 & 2, Trico vs Al Safat; Lanes 3 & 4, NTC vs Phil Supreme; Lanes 5 & 6, Al Rashed vs Jokers.

August 25, women's division: 9:00 am (Friday)

Lanes 3 & 4, Land Bank vs Far East; Lanes 5 & 6, Trico vs Al Sara;

August 25, men's division: 1:00 pm Lanes 1 & 2, Hempel vs Pullman; Lanes 3 & 4, Tectron vs Magnolia; Lanes 5 & 6, Cabana vs Penguins

(Philippines door to door service) donated five majors prizes, followed by Touristic Enterprises, Dr. Farid H. Lian, one of the authors of Arabic Learner's Dictionary, Pizza Italia and Kabayan Restaurant. The following were the winners:

1) Hatid Ligaya — Abughosh Int'l (50 kilos sea freight each)

I.D. Card Nos. 293, 771, 881, 969, 1921.

2) Touristic Enterprises Co K.S.C.

a) Entertainment City free entrance and ride for 3 persons I.D. Nos. 112, 2071, 3073, 3633, 3774 and 3794.

b) Kuwait Towers (Lunch or dinner at Horizon Restaurant) I.D. Nos. 16, 46, 987, 1255, 988 and 5999.

3) One Arabic Learner's Dictionary I.D. Nos. 301, 306, 5336, 5461, and 5462.

4) Pizza Italia gift certificates I.D. Nos. 168, 1030, 1780, 1927, 2176, 2184, 2490, 2759, 3511 & 3512.

5) Kabayan Restaurant (one cassette tape by Filipino Singers) I.D. Nos. 972, 1023, 1458, 2100, 3221, 3500, 3724, 3328, 4004 and 5409.

All member winners should claim their prizes from Sarah Macarimbang, vice-president for Social and Cultural Affairs, Tel. 4843447.



Woodgroup: 1st runner-up — basketball



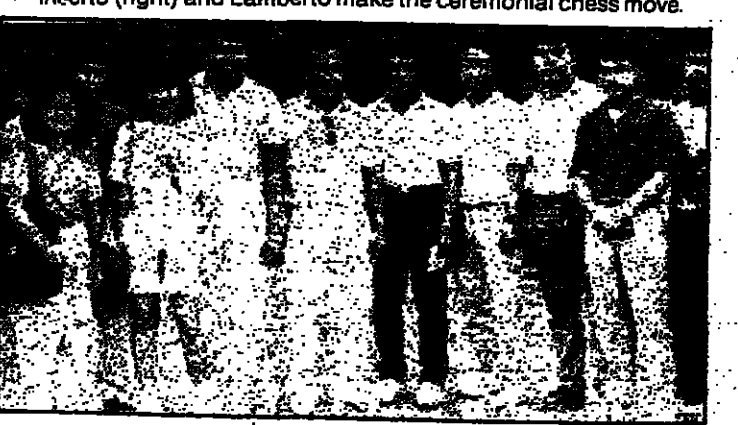
Hatid-Ligaya boss (right) receives the men's Group A bowling trophy.



Mar Evangelista: the Most Valuable bowler of Hatid Ligaya.



Inserto (right) and Lamberto make the ceremonial chess move.



Kay & Associates, men's lawn tennis champions



Trico Int'l general manager (right) receives trophy for bowling men's Group B champions.



Far East Restaurant representative (right) takes women's Group A bowling champions trophy.



EEI-Kamish: 2nd runners-up — basketball



Kuwait Regency, 3rd runners-up — basketball



Mythical Five (right) with Kapiku officials.



Kabayan: bowling (Group B) winners

SPORTS

Graf blasts Mandlikova for semifinals

MAHWAH, N.J., Aug 19 (Reuters): Steffi Graf was in peak form as she demolished former US Open champion Hana Mandlikova 6-0 6-1 in a lightning-fast 42 minutes yesterday to reach the semifinals of the \$200,000 Jersey Women's Classic.

Graf, the top seed and defending champion, dropped only 28 points as she ran her 1989 match record to 61-2 in her final nuptial before launching her defence of the

US Open crown.

The Czechoslovak-born Mandlikova, who is now an Australian citizen, said Graf was unbeatable.

"No woman player could have beaten her today," the 27-year-old Mandlikova said. "She was unbelievable and there was not much I could do."

Graf will face Linda Ferrando of Italy in the semifinals. The unseeded Ferrando,

ranked 47th, rallied from a 1-3 deficit in the third set to beat Peru's Laura Gildemeister 6-4 3-6 6-4.

The other semifinal will have Andrea Temesvari of Hungary against American Stacey Martin. Temesvari's heavy topspin shots carried her to a 6-3 7-5 upset win over Sylvia Hanika of West Germany in her quarterfinal.

Graf not only terrorised Mandlikova

with explosive ground strokes, but she frequently attacked with volley winners.

"She attacked all of my second serves and hit very hard approaches," said Mandlikova. "She's fast, too. She gets to balls that nobody else does."

The West German overwhelmed Mandlikova by winning the first 11 games as she rocked the fifth seed with forehand bullets to both corners of the court.

Lendl edges Connell

McEnroe overcomes Austrian



McEnroe hits a backhand return to Antonitsch. (Reuters wirephoto)

MONTREAL, Aug 19 (Reuters): It has been a long wait for Ivan Lendl but the world number one feels he is beginning to find his form.

"I finally hit some good shots — it only took three and a half weeks," said Lendl after beating unseeded Canadian Grant Connell 7-6 4-6 6-0 yesterday to reach the semifinals of the Canadian Open Tennis Championships.

Lendl, playing in his first tournament since Wimbledon, may have found his touch in the nick of time as next up on his path to the finals is third seed Andre Agassi, who overwhelmed Andrew Sznajder of Canada 6-1 6-0 in his quarterfinal.

The tournament's other semifinal will have second seed John McEnroe going against sixth-seeded fellow-American Jay Berger, who lost to McEnroe last week. McEnroe behaved impeccably as he beat Austrian Alex Antonitsch 7-5 2-6 6-3.

After playing a few exhibitions, Lendl came to Montreal to prepare for the US Open, which starts later this month. The Czechoslovak has had plenty of difficult matches here to hone his competitive edge.

Lendl took the first set tiebreaker 7-2 but then showed his lack of polish in the second set. Connell played a good chip and charge game to take the set

after breaking Lendl in the first game.

Connell received a standing ovation from the partisan crowd for his second set performance. Ironically, that might have contributed to his subsequent downfall as Lendl promised himself he would show the crowd who he was the upstart.

"Honestly, that upset me and I started playing better after that," Lendl said. "I didn't think my play was that outstanding, and I played a lousy second set. I understand that they appreciated he won the set, but I didn't want to make them that happy."

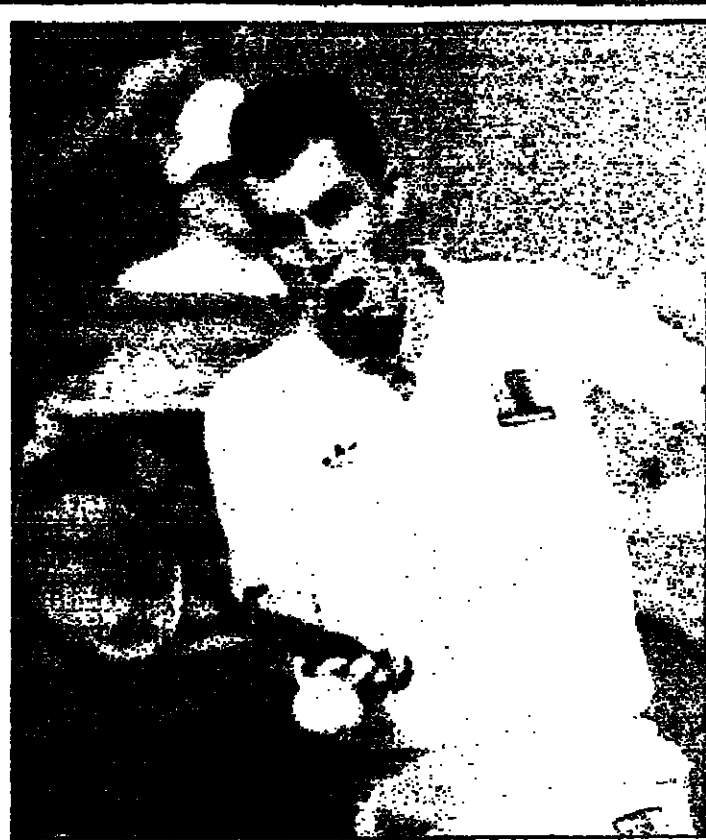
The 29-year-old Lendl made good on his private promise as he blanked the Canadian in the final set.

McEnroe did not look particularly sharp. The unseeded Antonitsch pressed him hard before the American called on his experience to pull out the match.

"The bottom line is winning," said McEnroe. "I've been a little bit in-and-out and my concentration level needs improvement."

Agassi, who has failed to win a tournament this year after winning six in 1988, showed some of his old flash as he sped to victory in just 44 minutes.

"It's always nice to get through one like that," said the 19-year-old Agassi, who hasn't won a title since last August.



Lendl returns a shot to Connell. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gilbert, Becker and Edberg win

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Aug 19 (Reuters): Brad Gilbert ousted French Open champion Michael Chang in a marathon quarterfinal match yesterday that was halted three times by rain.

Chang, the fourth seed, fell to the fifth-seeded Gilbert 3-6 7-6 (7-4) 6-3 in a two-hour 55-minute match that actually ended nearly eight and a half hours after its start.

The other three top seeds advanced in straight sets. Top-seeded Boris Becker of West Germany needed only 54 minutes to dismiss Jaime Yzaga of Peru, the eighth seed, 6-1 6-2. Becker was top seed in this evening's semifinals.

Second-seed Stefan Edberg suffered the same rain delays as Chang and Gilbert but was able to maintain his focus to defeat fellow-Swede Jonas Svensson, the 10th seed, 6-4 7-6 and advance to the semifinals against another compatriot, Mats Wilander.

Wilander, the third seed, reeled off the first nine games against 12th seed Andres Gomez of Ecuador before Gomez could control his erratic shot-making. The Ecuadorian turned the match around briefly before Wilander prevailed 6-0 7-6.

"It was very confusing," Wilander said. "You're up 6-0 3-0 and suddenly you don't have a chance to win a game for four games."

Chang tried to be philosophical about his defeat. "I think that the third set he played really well. I think the third set was really all Gilbert," said Chang, who found something positive about the result. "I think it was good in a way because now going into the US Open I can have a couple of extra days to recover and to start my training."

Chang and Gilbert rallied steadily from the baseline, with points won mainly on errors from the backcourt. Chang won the first set easily 6-3 but a rain delay at 1-0 in the second set turned the momentum around.

At 4-4 Chang seemed to have the match in hand as he broke Gilbert when the fifth seed missed a passing shot. Chang reached match point in the next game but lost it on a backhand error, and instead Gilbert broke for 5-5 when Chang netted a forehand.

Games reached 6-6 and Gilbert led all the way in the tiebreak to take it 7-4 when Chang hit a backhand wide.

Ovett's wish granted

LONDON, Aug 19 (Reuters): Britain's Amateur Athletic Association (AAA) yesterday ordered an independent inquiry into allegations by Steve Ovett that he was offered money to run against Sebastian Coe in the AAA Championships last weekend.

Ovett, the 1980 Olympic 800 metres champion, claimed after the 1,500 metres last weekend that he had been offered money by British athletics promotions director Andy Norman to run in the race when Coe, the winner, had not been.

Norman has denied the allegation and the AAA announced earlier they would investigate the matter.

Yesterday they said that a committee drawn from outside British athletics circles would be set up to look into it.

Ovett had expressed fears that an inquiry by AAA executives would be a "whitewash."

Tony Ward, the British Amateur Athletic Board spokesman, said that both Ovett and Norman had asked for an independent inquiry to look into Ovett's allegation.

Longo clinches crown

LYON, France, Aug 19 (UPI): Tour de France champion Jeanne Longo of France won her third women's world pursuit title last night, defeating Petra Rossner of East Germany in the 3,000-metre final at the World Cycling Championships.

Longo, who claimed the pursuit title in 1986 and 1988, was timed at the Parc de la Tete D'Or Velodrome in 3 minutes, 54.45 seconds. Rossner finished second in 3:55.31.

Longo, who will compete next week in the women's world road race in Chambéry, has also won the Tour de France title three times. She trailed Rossner by as much as 1:29 early in the final, but steadily responded and took the lead near mid-race.

Earlier, East Germany continued its impressive men's performances by winning the 4,000-metre team pursuit title over the Soviet Union.

The East German team, comprised of Steffen Blochwitz, Thomas Liese, Carsten Wolf and Guido Fulst, was timed in 4:16.59, eclipsing the posted 1986 world mark of 4:17.710 by Czechoslovakia. The East German's performance will not be considered for a world record, however, because only one team is allowed on the track during a record attempt.

The Soviet Union quarter, which included amateur pursuit champion Viatcheslav Ekimov, earned the silver medal in 4:18.54.



Longo smiles after getting her medal. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kasparov, Ehlvest share lead

SKELLEFTEA, Sweden, Aug 19 (AP): Soviet grandmaster Jovan Ehlvest defeated Viktor Korchnoi of Switzerland in the fifth round of the chess World Cup yesterday and moved up to share the lead with world champion Garry Kasparov.

Kasparov and Ehlvest each have three and a half points out of five. In third equal position on three points are British Grandmaster Nigel Short, Valery Salov of the Soviet Union and Hungary's Lajos Portisch.

Kasparov, playing white against Ulf Andersson of Sweden, gained a strong initiative, but missed several favourable continuations and allowed his opponent to escape with a draw.

"I could have won several times. It was my fifth winning position in this tournament," said Kasparov after the game.

The competition, held in this northern Swedish city, is the third strongest chess tournament in history, according to calculations from the official world ranking list.

Ehlvest, playing white, built a clear advantage against Korchnoi, a 58-year-old Soviet defector. The final breakthrough came when Korchnoi blundered in the fifth hour of the playing session.

Korchnoi, the fifth ranked player in the world, has only drawn one game and now stands in last place, a point and a half adrift of the rest of the field.

A win scores one point and a draw a half.

Short moved up to third place when he defeated Salov, the overnight leader, in 42 moves.

In a complex battle, Salov, playing white, had a favourable position for most of the game, but in a hair-raising time scramble allowed Short to gain a check-mating attack.

While Kasparov has won only two games from five winning positions, he remains a point clear of archival Anatoly Karpov, the only man who can pass him in the series.

Karpov drew his game with British grandmaster John Nunn in only twelve moves.

Of his last eight games, Karpov has lost three and drawn five. "Over an eight game period, it's Karpov's worst performance ever," said Leonko Garcia, a prominent Spanish chess commentator.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Gooch available

LONDON, Aug 19 (Reuters): England batsman Graham Gooch confirmed yesterday that he will be available for the sixth and final Test against Australia at the Oval next week.

'Rebel' tour

LONDON, Aug 19 (AP): England cricket captain David Gower says the forthcoming "rebel" tour of South Africa will do nothing to break down the barriers of apartheid and that money is the chief motivator for the players making the trip.

Di Meco suspended

PARIS, Aug 19 (UPI): Marseille's international defender Eric di Meco has been suspended for two matches as a result of his scuffle that got him ejected from last Saturday's French First Division match against Nice.

Auto rally

PARIS, Aug 19 (UPI): Eight crews in the Paris-Beijing auto rally were heading back to Paris yesterday after stopping at the 4,700-metre (15,400-foot) Khunjerab mountain on the Pakistan-Chinese border, the French daily Le Monde reported from Islamabad.

1990 championship

BUENOS AIRES, Aug 19 (Reuters): Argentina confirmed it will host the World Basketball Championship next August in four different venues, quashing rumours of a cancellation, organisers said.

Fittipaldi fastest

LONG POND, Pennsylvania, Aug 19 (AP): Emerson Fittipaldi buried the Pocomo International raceway qualifying record yesterday, racing around the bumpy 2-1/2-mile (4-kilometre) tri-oval at 211.715 miles per hour (340.73 kilometres per hour) to beat Rick Mears in the pole battle for tomorrow's Quaker State 500.

Springboard events

RALEIGH, North Carolina, Aug 19 (AP): Kent Fergusson of Florida and Wendy Lucero of Colorado completed sweeps of the springboard events yesterday at the US Outdoor Diving Championships.

Manager fired

NEW YORK, Aug 19 (Reuters): The struggling New York Yankees fired manager Dallas Green yesterday and replaced him with Bucky Dent for the rest of the season.

Britain win

ROTTERDAM, Aug 19 (Reuters): Britain clinched the overall team competition on the second day of the European Showjumping Championships in Rotterdam yesterday thanks to a flawless performance from Michael Whitaker.

Card system

THE HAGUE, Aug 19 (Reuters): The Netherlands have temporarily scrapped an identity card system designed to control soccer violence after fans rioted and local authorities warned they could not implement the plan.

Spanish clubs

BERN, Switzerland, Aug 19 (AP): Spanish clubs gained a fourth berth in next year's UEFA Cup European soccer tournament while England retained only one spot due to its clubs' continued ban from continental competition, European soccer's governing body said yesterday.

World title

SKOVDE, Sweden, Aug 19 (Reuters): Petter Thoresen surprised a formidable pack of orienteers yesterday to give Norway the men's individual world title, pushing defending champion Kent Olsson of Sweden into second place.

Athletics meet

RAVENNA, Italy, Aug 19 (Reuters): Palestinians will race in Italy for the first time next week at an international athletics meeting in Ravenna, a trade union helping to sponsor the event said yesterday.

McMahon traded

CHICAGO, Aug 19 (Reuters): Jim McMahon, the lightning-armed quarterback who led the Chicago Bears to a Super Bowl championship in 1986, was traded yesterday to the San Diego Chargers for a 1990 draft pick.

Revenge sought

NORFOLK, Va., Aug 19 (Reuters): Pernell "Sweetpea" Whitaker will be defending one title, challenging for another and seeking revenge when he faces Mexico's Jose Luis Ramirez in a lightweight championship fight tomorrow.

Nagelsen wins

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico, Aug 19 (AP): Betsy Nagelsen survived the youth of top-seeded Arantxa Sanchez and a marathon of hardcourt tennis yesterday to advance to the semifinals of the Virginia Slims of Albuquerque tournament. Nagelsen won 1-6 4-6 4-6.

Tennis tourney

SAINT VINCENT, Italy, Aug 19 (AP): Tomas Carbonell and Juan Aguilera of Spain and Italy's Claudio Pistolesi qualified for the semifinals of the \$155,000 Saint Vincent tennis tournament, scoring clearcut wins in straight sets in Friday's quarterfinal matches.

Mets tame Dodgers

Astros outlast Cubs

NEW YORK, Aug 19 (AP): The Houston Astros won for just the sixth time in 16 games and stayed three games behind San Francisco in the National League West.

Rafael Ramirez walked with the bases loaded and two outs in the ninth inning, capping a two-run rally that was helped by an intentional walk as Houston beat the Chicago Cubs 6-5 last night.

Glenn Davis, hit a solo home run in the eighth inning and doubled home the tying run in the ninth.

The Cubs' three-game winning streak ended and they lost for just the fourth time in 15 games. Their lead in the National League East was cut to 3 and 1-2 games over New York. Andre Dawson got his 2,000th career hit and Rookie Jerome Walton, tied a team record by hitting in his 28th straight game.

Mets 3, Dodgers 2

David Cone won his eighth

consecutive decision and Orel Hershiser's wild pitch allowed the go-ahead run to score as the New York Mets beat the Los Angeles Dodgers for their ninth victory in 11 games.

Cone, 11-5, allowed seven hits in eight innings, with nine strikeouts and three walks. He is 8-0 at home and his only mistake was a two-run homer to Eddie Murray in the sixth. Randy Myers got his 200th save.

Expos 5, Padres 2

Pascual Perez pitched a six-hit, two-run game for the Expos as they beat the San Diego Padres, just the Expos' fourth victory in 15 games. Tim Lincecum and Tim Wallach each homered for the Expos.

Giants 5, Phillies 2

Rick Reuschel won in his first game since July 29 and Will Clark hit a three-run homer, leading the San Francisco Giants over the Philadelphia Phillies.

Reuschel, 14-5, was activated from the disabled list on Wednesday and got his 204th career victory, most among active National League pitchers.

Braves 13, Pirates 6

Darrell Evans hit his 414th career home run and Lonnie Smith led a 15-hit attack with three singles and two RBIs as the Atlanta Braves snapped a four-game losing streak by routing the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Results

American League	
Detroit	7
Toronto	9
Texas	7
Milwaukee	6
Kansas City	5
Minnesota	4
California	6

National League

1st-Cincinnati	6
2nd-St. Louis	3
Montreal	5
New York	5
San Francisco	5
Atlanta	13
Houston	6

Barrios shatters world 10,000m record at GP meet

WEST BERLIN, Aug 19 (Reuters): Mexican Arturo Barrios shattered the world men's 10,000 metres record by more than five seconds with a magnificent run at the West Berlin Grand Prix athletics meeting yesterday.

Barrios clocked 27 minutes 08.23 seconds to break Portuguese Fernando Mamede's five-year-old mark of 27:13.81.

The 25-year-old Mexican, a mechanical engineer, ran the last third of the race of his own after American pacemakers Doug Padilla and Steve Plasencia both dropped out.

Barrios, a product of the tough American road racing school, did not falter, keeping an even lap speed of 62 to 63 seconds.

Conditions were ideal for distance running on a warm, still night with a small crowd in the giant Olympic Stadium roaring Barrios on as it became evident that Mamede's record was under serious threat.

Padilla, who dropped out with nearly 3,000 metres still to go, ran on the track late in the race to scream encouragement to the Mexican.

With one lap to run, Barrios needed only to better 65 seconds to take the record.

Without apparent strain he lifted his tempo to record an even 60 seconds and cross the line in triumph surrounded by photographers and fellow athletes.

Barrios paid tribute to Padilla and Plasencia as well as his Polish coach, Tadeusz Koppka.

"I knew earlier in the season I could run a world record," Barrios said. "My coach says I could run under 27 minutes."

Earlier Leroy Burrell, latest in the seemingly endless line of world-class American sprinters, led from start to finish to beat



Lewis in action during one of his long jumps. (Reuters wirephoto)

European 100 metres champion Linford Christie.

The powerful 20-year-old, fourth fastest man ever, clocked 10.08 seconds with Briton Christie a well-beaten second in 10.15.

"This is the most important victory for me on European soil," Burrell said. "I ran my own race and did not notice my

opponents."

While Burrell was completing a jubilant victory lap, his schoolboy idol Carl Lewis was facing defeat in the long jump.

Olympic champion Lewis, a teammate of Burrell's at the Santa Monica Track Club, trailed compatriot Larry Myricks until the fifth round

when he unleashed a winning leap of 8.38 metres. Myricks, who has the year's best mark of 8.70, failed with his last two attempts.

Lewis, who extended his unbeaten streak to 62, was disappointed with his performance. "But I still won in one of the biggest track and field meetings in the world," he said.

Olympic champion Roger Kingdom, who broke the world high hurdles record in Zurich on Wednesday, was victorious again, beating Britain's Olympic silver medalist Colin Jackson. Both men were level at the third barrier before Kingdom powered away to win in 13.02.

There was an upset in the men's 400 metres hurdles where Kevin Young beat Olympic champion Andre Phillips, a fellow-American, in the year's fastest time of 47.86 seconds. It was only the second time that Young, fourth in the Seoul Olympic final, has ever beaten Phillips.

Somalia's world 1,500 metres champion Abdi Bile repulsed a strong challenge from West German Dieter Baumann to win the men's mile in 3:50.97, third fastest in the world this year.

And there was a rare failure for Soviet Olympic and world champion Sergei Bubka in the pole vault.

Bubka, as usual, made a late entry into the competition then failed with all three attempts at 5.60 metres.

"I had some problems in the run up," Bubka said. "Maybe I'm taking part in too many competitions at the moment, instead I should do more training."

The event was won by American Tim Bright with a modest 5.75 metres.



Barrios waves to the crowd after breaking the record. (Reuters wirephoto)



Bile (right) and Baumann after the mile race. (Reuters wirephoto)

SPORTS BRIEFS

Tour schedules

BOMBAY, Aug. 19. (Reuters): Schedules for tours to Pakistan, England and New Zealand were approved by the Indian Cricket Board today. India's programme opens with the triangular one-day tournament against Pakistan and West Indies in Sharjah from October 12. Then India will play three Tests and five one-day matches in Pakistan from Nov 15 to Dec 22 before touring New Zealand from Jan 18 to March 11. The England tour starts on June 23 and ends after the third and final Test on Aug 28.

Pace bowler

CHELMSFORD, England, Aug. 19. (Reuters): John Lever, the 40-year-old former England left-arm pace bowler, said today he would retire from first-class cricket at the end of the season. Lever, who appeared 21 times for England, announced his retirement while playing for Essex in their three-day match against the touring Australians.

Rugby match

DURBAN, Aug. 19. (Reuters): An international XV easily won the first match of a controversial rugby union tour today, beating Natal 35-20 despite a chronic lack of preparation. Hours before the match about 20 demonstrators, carrying placards saying "don't play ball with apartheid," protested outside the tourists' beachfront hotel against the tour, which marks the centenary of the South African Rugby Board (SARB).

Cup qualifier

VIENNA, Aug. 19. (UPI): Austrian soccer team manager Joseph Hickersberger is optimistic about next Wednesday's World Cup. European Zone Group Three qualifying clash against Iceland. "Because of our home advantage there's no way we can lose," he said.

Baseball team

SOFIA, Aug. 19. (UPI): The US baseball team from the University of Ames, Iowa, has been visiting the Bulgarian capital for two weeks to assist Bulgaria's budding baseball culture, reports BTA, the official state news agency.

Southeast hurt

EDINBURGH, Aug. 19. (UPI): Glasgow Rangers soccer club manager Graeme Souness was rushed to hospital last night with three broken ribs after a training accident. The former Scottish international collided with Neil Cooper going for the ball during a practice match.

PLM Open

MALMO, Sweden, Aug. 19. (Reuters): Bernhard Langer edged towards his second European Golf Tour victory of the season and automatic Ryder Cup selection — with a six-birdie second round of 66 in the PLM Open at Borskoen yesterday.

Price ahead

CASTLE ROCK, Colo., Aug. 19. (Reuters): Nick Price of Zimbabwe took over as leading point-getter in the million-dollar International Golf tournament yesterday as he scored eight points for a total of 20 after 36 holes of play.

Aguilera wins

SAINT VINCENT, Italy, Aug. 19. (Reuters): Semifinal results in the \$125,000 Valle D'Aosta Men's Grand Prix tennis tournament today: Juan Aguilera (Spain) beat Claudio Pistoletti (Italy) 6-1, 6-1.

Maruman Open

HATYOMACHO, Japan, Aug. 19. (AP): Kouichi Suzuki shot a 1-under-par 71 today and retained his lead after the third round of the Maruman Open golf tournament.

Singapore Open

SINGAPORE, Aug. 19. (AP): Russell Barlow battled nearly two hours before defeating fellow Australian Neil Borwick 7-6 (7-2), 4-6, 6-3 today in the finals of the Singapore Men's Open tennis championship.

SEA Games

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, Aug. 19. (AP): The Southeast Asian Games Federation announced today that the Philippines will host the next SEA Games in 1991.

FIFA slaps ban on Chile's national stadium

ZURICH, Aug. 19. (Reuters): The International Football Federation (FIFA) has slapped an indefinite ban on Chile's national stadium in Santiago following incidents in last Sunday's World Cup qualifier against Brazil.

FIFA also said that Chile's next World Cup home tie against Venezuela on August 27 must be played outside the country.

A FIFA statement yesterday said that its

committee for urgent matters had, after studying the referee's report, "banned Santiago's Estadio Nacional with immediate effect from staging international matches at any level."

Brazil's Football Association (CBF) protested to FIFA after Chile held them to a 1-1 draw in the South American Group Three qualifier in which Colombian referee Jose Diaz sent off two players and hooked seven.

CBF officials said they had protested at the

use of the stadium's electronic scoreboard to incite Chilean fans and at police behaviour against Brazil's manager Sebastian Lazaroni.

The scoreboard carried phrases such as "Chi-Chi-Chi, Le-Le-Le, Chile, Chile, Chile."

FIFA also imposed one-match bans on Brazilians Romario da Souza and Jose Carlos da Costa and Chilean Raul Ormeno.

Striker Romario, sent off after just two minutes, displayed a bite mark on his chest on his

return home which he said had provoked him to hit a Chilean defender.

Lazaroni, complaining that Chile's coach Orlando Aravena whipped fans to a violent frenzy, told reporters: "They should be punished for what they did...it was a black day in world football history."

FIFA banned Aravena and Brazilian team masseur Abilio Jose da Silva from the officials' bench for the group's remaining qualifying ties.

United kick off with 4-1 win

Liverpool brush aside City

LONDON, Aug. 19. (Reuters): Manchester United repaid the faith of their brand new owner with a 4-1 home win over titleholders Arsenal in an exciting start to the English League championship today.

United, subject of a record £20 million (\$31 million) takeover on the eve of the new season, went one goal up in less than two minutes as they set out in pursuit of the title which has evaded them for 23 years.

Liverpool, pipped at the post for last year's title, and Tottenham also earned useful wins but another former championships-winning side, Everton, were beaten 2-0 at Coventry.

Manchester United's victory at Old Trafford included a debut goal from England midfielder Neil Webb, a close-season signing from Nottingham Forest.

Webb and fellow-newcomer Mike Phelan slotted easily into the team, much to the satisfaction of manager Alex Ferguson who had feared his job could be in jeopardy under the new ownership unless United improved on last season's disappointing results.

With businessman Michael Knighton, the club's new owner, watching, Steve Bruce wasted no time in putting United in the lead with a header before the reigning champions had even settled into the game.

In an action-filled first half, Arsenal goalkeeper John Lukic saved an 18th-minute penalty by Brian McClair after a foul on Bruce by the London side's captain Tony Adams.

Seconds later Adams was sub-



Knighton stands on the terrace at Old Trafford. (Reuters wirephoto)

stituted in defence by Gus Caesar, who was barely on the pitch before England midfielder David Rocastle had equalised with a header from a Brian Marwood corner.

Referee David Hutchinson had to be replaced himself in the first half because of a pulled leg muscle.

Welsh international striker Mark Hughes put United, who last won the English title in the 1966-67 season, ahead again in the second half before Webb and

McClair added two more goals in the space of four minutes.

Webb chested the ball down and volleyed the ball into the net from 25 metres. McClair added the fourth with a left-footed drive past Lukic.

But one would-be spectator missed the action, England manager Bobby Robson, who had hoped to watch several of his team members including captain Bryan Robson, was stranded at London's Heathrow Airport because of an industrial dispute.

Liverpool, denied last season's title at home by an Arsenal goal in the final minute of their closing match, had already their England men to thank for a 3-1 victory over newly-promoted Manchester City.

John Barnes struck home a penalty awarded after just seven minutes for handling by City captain Brian Gayle to put the FA Cup winners ahead at Anfield.

City equalised when a free kick from Andy Hinchcliffe deflected off the defensive wall to leave goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar a helpless spectator.

England's Peter Beardsley raced half the length of the pitch to score on the rebound in the 60th minute and then helped Barnes to set up Liverpool's third goal, a side-footed shot into the net by Steve Nicol, in the 89th.

Chelsea, another newcomer to the First Division, had a happier time, beating Wimbledon 1-0 with an 81st minute goal by substitute Kevin Wilson.

Scottish champions Rangers suffered their second successive defeat, 2-0 against Hibernian, leaving them the only Premier Division team yet to score after the season's two rounds.

Results

English Division One	
Charlton	0
Coventry	2
Liverpool	3
Manchester U.	4
Nottingham F.	1
Q.P.R.	2
Sheff. Wed.	0
Southampton	1
Tottenham	2
Wimbledon	0
Chelsea	1

English Division Two	
Blackburn	1
Bradford	2
Brighton	1
Leicester	1
Leeds	2
Middlesbrough	3
Newcastle	3
Plymouth	0
Sheff. Utd.	1
Swindon	0
Watford	1
Reading	3
West Bromwich	0
Sheff. U.	3

English Division Three	
Birmingham	1
Blackpool	0
Bristol R.	1
Bury	1
Cardiff	0
Chester	0
Fulham	1
Huddersfield	1
Leyton	0
Reading	3
Rotherham	3
Walsall	1
Northampton	0

English Division Four	
Chesterfield	1
Exeter	1
Gillingham	0
Grimsby	0
Halifax	4
Hereford	2
Lincoln	1
Peterborough	1
Rochdale	2
Scarborough	2
Southend	2
Stockport	1
Torquay	1

Scottish Premier Division	
Celtic	1
Dundee	4
Hibernian	2
Motherwell	0
St. Mirren	1
Airdrie	1
Ayr	1
Falkirk	0
Meadowbank	1
Morton	0
Partick	4
St. Johnstone	2
Cydebank	1

Scottish Division Two	
Arbroath	1
Brechin	1
Brora	1
Cowdenbeath	0
East Fife	2
Queen of S.	4
Queen's Park	3
Stranraer	0
Stirling	2

Pakistan finish in third place

W. Germany beat Australia

IPOH, Malaysia, Aug. 19. (AP): West Germany defeated Australia 4-2 in the final of the fourth triennial Junior World Cup field hockey tournament here this evening to emerge champion.

Both teams were drawn 1-1 after fulltime and both sides were allowed penalty flicks to decide the winner.

The Australians were placed second.

In the 12-nation meet, Pak-

istan emerged third after defeating South Korea 6-2 today. The Koreans, who were drawn 2-2 at half-time, placed fourth.

Argentina defeated Malaysia 3-0 to take fifth place. Malaysia, which trailed 0-1 at half-time, placed sixth.

England defeated Spain 3-0 for seventh place, while Spain which trailed 0-1 at half-time was placed eighth.

Yesterday the Netherlands defeated Egypt 5-1 to be placed ninth while Egypt

which trailed 1-2 at half-time was placed 10th.

Also yesterday the United States emerged 11th after defeating the Soviet Union 2-1. The Soviets who trailed 0-1 at half-time were placed last.

Pakistan's Anjum Saeed scored in the sixth minute, Tariq Sheikh in the 32nd minute, Mussaddiq Hussain in the 57th and 59th minutes.

Khalid Bashir in the 61st minute, and Shahbaz Ahmed in the 67th minute.

Choi Jung-Mo scored both of South Korea's goals.

Argentina's Carlos Retegui scored a field goal in the 12th minute, and Mariano Fernandez converted a short corner in the 45th minute to make it 2-0. Retegui then scored another field goal in the 52nd minute.

England's Paul Krishnan scored in the fifth minute, followed by Mark Kirkland in the 55th minute and Robert Crutchley in the 61st minute.

Evans retains Pan Pacific title

TOKYO, Aug. 19. (Reuters): American Janet Evans, world record holder and Olympic champion in the 400 metres freestyle, held on to her Pan Pacific title in the event with a championships record time yesterday.

Evans, 17, led from the start to clock four minutes 4.53 seconds, breaking her mark of 4:09.32 set in the 1987 championship in the 400 metres freestyle, held on to her Pan Pacific title in the event with a championships record time yesterday.

Evans, 17, led from the start to clock four minutes 4.53 seconds, breaking her mark of 4:09.32 set in the 1987 championships in Brisbane, Australia.

Evans said she was happy to have surpassed the

European record time of 4:05.84 set by East German Anke Moehring at the European Championships in Bonn on Thursday.

"I knew her winning time. My goal was to surpass 4:05," said Evans, a triple Olympic gold medalist who set the world record of 4:03.85 in the 400 at last September's Seoul Games.

US national champion Dan Veatch, 24, also broke his own meeting record as he retained his 200 metres backstroke title with a time of 2:01.27. He had clocked 2:01.38 at the previous championships.

Surinam's Anthony Nesty, gold medalist for the 100 metres butterfly at the Seoul Olympics, defeated US national champion Wade King by 0.06 seconds.

India defers decision on banned stars

BOMBAY, Aug. 19. (Reuters): India's cricket authorities deferred a decision on whether to confirm year-long bans on six Test stars today after the players insisted they had done nothing wrong.

The players, including Test captain Dilip Vengsarkar and all-rounder Kapil Dev, said their contracts did not bar them from playing in matches in North America, for which they were banned and fined earlier this month.

A lengthy statement from the players — the others were batsmen Mohammed Azharuddin and Arun Lal, all-rounder Ravi Shastri and wicketkeeper Kiran More — was a major reversal of their player-stunned reaction to the bans.

On August 7, the day after the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced their severest punishments, the players pleaded for mercy.

But today, during an appeal to the board's working committee, they argued that their contracts barred them only from playing unapproved matches in South Africa.

"We state that we have not contravened any provision of the contract in a manner that warranted the punishment, or any punishment at all," they said.

BCCI secretary Ranbir Singh said the committee made no decision on the appeal because legal complexities were involved.

The committee would meet again on September 23 in the northern city of Chandigarh to consider the longest bans ever imposed on Indian players, he said.

The six players were banned and fined heavily, and eight other players fined, for playing matches in the United States and Canada following India's tour of the West Indies earlier this year.

Darnyi completes Euro-double

BONN, Aug. 19. (Reuters): Individual medley star Tamas Darnyi collected his second gold medal of the European Swimming Championships in Spain's Martin Lopez-Zubero snatched a dramatic victory in the 100 metres backstroke today.

Hungarian ace Darnyi swept to the 200 metres butterfly title but American-trained Lopez-Zubero beat Soviet holder Sergei Zabolotnov of the Soviet Union by just one hundredth of a second in a thrilling backstroke race.

East Germans Daniela Hunger and Anke Moehring also completed golden doubles in the Roemerbad pool on the penultimate day of the championships and the medley relay squad duly accounted for East Germany's 12th women's swimming title and 13th overall with diving.

Olympic champion Hunger added the 200 individual medley to Tuesday's 300 crown, while Anke Moehring, Wednesday's 400 freestyle winner in European record time, was once again in class of her own in the 800.

Lopez-Zubero, fifth at the halfway mark of the 100 backstroke nearly a second behind West German Frank Hoffmeister, boiled down the second length to dispossess Zabolotnov in 56.44 seconds.

Zabolotnov clocked 56.45, while East German Dirk Richter took the bronze in 56.52



Poland's Arthur Woidat celebrates after winning the gold medal for the men's 400m freestyle on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

ahead of former team-mate Hoffmeister, who defeated to the West in 1984. Soviet world champion Sergei Poliansky had to settle for fifth.



War veterans

Members of El Salvador's team of war veterans wounded by land mines practice within the installation of the First Infantry Brigade for the upcoming world championship of amputee soccer to take place in the United States in September. (Reuters wirephoto)

Kuwait to take part in youth championship

KUWAIT'S national youth football team travel to Iraq for the Pepsi-sponsored 3rd Arab Nations Youth Championship.

The tournament kicks off on Aug 31 in Baghdad and the Kuwait squad will meet teams from most of the other Arab nations. The prize is the prestigious Palestine Cup.

The championship, open to all under 19 national youth teams, has been won by Iraq in 1983 and Saudi Arabia in 1985. Other nations taking part are Iraq, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Bahrain, Lebanon, Morocco, North Yemen, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, South Yemen and the UAE.

Pepsi-Cola apart from being the main sponsor of the event will also provide a special trophy to the leading goalscorer.

The matches will be played in Baghdad, Kirkuk, Mosul and Basra. This is the first major soccer tournament to be held in Iraq for eight years and will be played under the patronage of His Excellency, the President of Iraq, Saddam Hussein.

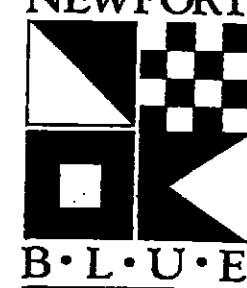


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